FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 106 *2 June 1982*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Results of Argentine-Andean Pact Meeting A 1
Briefs: Human Rights Conference A 1

ARGENTINA

Falklands Governor: Time for Decisive Battle B 1
Miret, Moya Leave for UN With Junta Directives B 1
Carrying No Proposals B 2
UN Secretary General Meets Ros, UK Envoy B 2
Political Leaders Comment on Crisis, Aftermath B 3
Costa Mendez Departing for Cuba 2 June B 4
Military Committee Work Group Meets 1 June B 4
Details of Meeting B 5
Lami Dozo Meets With Air Force Generals B 5
Joint Staff Communiques on Military Operations B 5
UK Losses as of 31 May B 5
Bombardment of Mount Kent B 6
Hospital Ship Arrives B 6
UK Admits Invincible Attack B 6
Harrier Jet Shot Down B 6
1 June Operations B 6
Planes Harass Troops Advancing on Puerto Argentino B 7
Military Source Evaluates British Losses B 7
Wounded Soldiers at Falklands Hospital B 7
Governor Leopoldo Bravo May Travel to Moscow B 8
Agriculture Official Offers Grains to USSR B 8
Economy Minister Comments on Foreign Debt B 8
Refinancing of Foreign Debt Plan Underway B 9
Foreign Currency Reserves Increase in May B 9
Planning Secretary on Economic Revival B 9
Briefs: Bus Service From Peru; B 10
Interior Ministry Under Secretaries;
Nigerian Ambassador; Bolivian Ambassador

BOLIVIA

President Torrelio Villa Addresses Armed Forces C 1

COLOMBIA

President-Elect Betancur on Foreign Relations F 1
Briefs: Cartagena Agreement Official Resigns; F 1
Gastroenteritis, Typhoid Fever

PARAGUAY

Nogues Addresses OAS Foreign Ministers H 1
[PATRIA 1 Jun]
Nogues Meets With Argentine Foreign Minister H 2
[ABC COLOR 31 May]
Purchase of Libyan Petroleum Products Negotiated H 2
[LA TRIBUNA 11 May]

URUGUAY

Foreign Minister Views Falklands Issue K 1
Interior Minister on Political Party Activities K 1

VENEZUELA

President Herrera Campins News Conference L 1

MEXICO

Official Says Relations With U.S. Not Strained M 1
Foreign Secretariat Explains Vote on Falklands M 1
De Madrid Drafts Conservative Oil Policy Plan M 1
Bank Returns to Foreign Exchange Market M 2
Briefs: Iraqi Ambassador M 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Vigilance Increased at Border With Nicaragua P 1
Changes in Foreign Policy Produced by Monge P 1
President Monge Meets With Nicaragua's Robelo P 2

EL SALVADOR

Military Forces Launch Large-Scale Offensive P 2
Subversive Groups Derail Train, Ambush Patrol P 2
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 31 May]
Havana Reports 'Heavy Fighting' Near Honduras P 3
PDC Replacement for Murdered Mayor Also Killed P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 31 May]
PDC Warns Against Undermining of Reforms P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 19 May]
Editorial Speculates on U.S.-Latin Relations P 5
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 19 May]

GUATEMALA

Envoy to Nicaragua Recalled To Explain Incident P 6
Rios Montt Views on Peasant Killings, Communism P 6
Official Uncertain on Effect of Amnesty Decree P 6
Rebel Actions, EGP Statement Reject Amnesty P 7
Christian Democrats Seek Revision of Amnesty P 7

NICARAGUA

Counterrevolutionary Band Dispersed in Ometepe P 8
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 22 May]
Further Clashes P 8
Borge Talks on OAS, TIAR, Falklands, Border Issues P 9
[BARRICADA 23 May]
Addresses Peace Conference P 10
Soviet Intellectuals Group Begins Visit P 11
Diplomatic Relations Established With Cyprus P 11
Paper Interviews Commander Bayardo Arce P 12
[PATRIA LIBRE May 82]
Arce Reports Europe Visit P 18
Brezhnev Sends Condolences to Junta on Floods P 18
Briefs: New Justice Minister; Sugar Production P 18

CUBA

Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau Sessions Continue Q 1
Presiding Board Named Q 1
Topics of Discussions [EFE] Q 1
Closed-Door Sessions Q 2
Draft Political Declaration Q 2
Ministerial Delegates Arrive Q 3
Nonaligned Media Pool Q 3
Agreement Signed With Grenadian Foreign Minister Q 3

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Armed Forces Evict Squatters From Capital V 1

PANAMA

CIA 'Hand' in Anticommunist Journalism Alleged V 1
[MATUTINO 28 May]

RESULTS OF ARGENTINE-ANDEAN PACT MEETING

PY282237 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2126 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Lima, 28 May (TELAM) -- The clear support of the member countries of the Andean Pact to Argentina in order to lighten the effects of the sanctions applied by signatories of the EEC have resulted in a number of immediate and long-term actions, which call for a sudden reorientation of commerical trade in Latin America.

This was reported at a press conference at the headquarters of the agreement board by Orlando Alcivar from Ecuador, who is president of the committee, when mentioning the goals achieved at the recent meeting of the Andean-Argentine mixed committee.

It was reported that Argentina announced that, in principle, it will reduce purchases from and sales to until now traditional markets and will favor in its trade the region where Argentina belongs.

The Andean Pact, it was added, has started the mobilization of official and private management sectors so that agreements may be reached in the near future regarding a broad number of products on which interest has already been expressed for import and export operations.

An Andean Pact-Argentine joint declaration stated the aforementioned measures and indicated the objectives which, within the spirit of solidarity shown at the meetings, exceeded the sphere of the negotiations themselves.

Furthermore, the central banks of all Latin America were encouraged to agree in order to solve, if needed, the problems of the Argentine balance of payments.

BRIEFS

HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE -- An international report indicates that a conference on the creation of a documentation center on human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in June in Quito, Ecuador. The board of directors of the conference includes Nicaraguan Culture Minister Father Ernesto Cardenal; Brazilian Bishop Helder Camara; Guillermo Ungo, president of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front; and other personalities. [Text] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 May 82 PA]

FALKLANDS GOVERNOR: TIME FOR DECISIVE BATTLE

PY011940 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1808 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Puerto Argentino, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- Brig Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez, the military governor of the Malvinas Islands, today addressed a fervent message to the Argentine troops who are defending the Malvinas Islands. He said that the enemy is ready to attack Puerto Argentino and that the enemy will be defeated by the resolute action that will be carried out by each soldier in his combat post.

"We must do it in such a way that their defeat will be such a smashing one that they will never again have the impertinent idea of invading our land." This was included in the message which was also published in the special edition of the Argentine GAZETTE today. Following is the text of Menendez' message:

"All our efforts, our waiting, the cold, our tiredness, our vigilance have come to an end. The enemy is ready to attack Puerto Argentino with the bold and daring intention of capturing the capital of the Malvinas Islands.

"Each man must fully understand what his duty is. The enemy will be defeated by action carried out by each soldier in his combat outpost. If each man, with his rifle, mortar, machinegun or cannon, fights with the boldness and heroism which has always characterized us, we are bound to be successful. All Argentines have their eyes on us. Our parents, wives, fiances, children, and all our relatives have total confidence in us. When the supreme hour comes, we have the duty not to betray them.

"We have made a sacred commitment to our fellowmen who died during the actions which were carried out here. This commitment lies in turning their personal sacrifice into a page of glory for Argentina, and we cannot allow their heroism to have been to no avail.

"We must not only defeat them, but we must do it in such a way that their defeat will be such a smashing one that they will never again have the impertinent idea of invading our land. Let us grab our weapons. Let us fight."

Signed: Mario Benjamin Menendez, Brigadier General, Military Governor

MIRET, MOYA LEAVE FOR UN WITH JUNTA DIRECTIVES

PY012326 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2115 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- Planning Secretary Gen Jose Miret and Rear Adm Benito Moya, chief of the military household, left for New York this afternoon. One of them said that they are carrying directives given by the military junta so that when the latest proposals of Perez de Cuellar are received, they will be able to give an answer on it without delays through consultations with Buenos Aires.

They left from Ezeiza on a regular flight at 1710 with a stopover in Rio de Janeiro.

During a conversation with reporters, General Miret said: "We are going to New York with precise instructions from the military junta so that when the different proposals are received from UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar we will be able to answer them almost immediately.

He added: Therefore once again we are demonstrating that just as we are ready for war, we also have a willingness for peace.

Asked how the military actions are influencing the negotiations he said: "I believe that it is essential that these negotiations, practically the final ones on the Malvinas Islands at the United Nations and the Security Council -- an organization created exclusively for maintaining peace -- be carried out to prevent unnecessary deaths and achieve the same objective through negotiations."

Asked if his presence at the United Nations was to insure an immediate cease-fire to prevent more bloodshed, he said: "I would say that a cease-fire depends more on Great Britain than on us. We have been flexible to the maximum regarding our position, but we only find intransigence from the other side. We have yielded or are yielding all that is prudent to achieve an honorable peace. Let us hope that the other side will also understand that it is not through bloodshed that it is going to maintain the colonialist spirit which has characterized it."

In conclusion, in answer to another question he said that there are no plans for any contacts with the U.S. Government, but that "we are open to dialogue with any official, either from the United States or other countries if it contributes to achieving peace."

Carrying No Proposals

PY020301 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0205 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez tonight denied that the presidency officials who left for New York today are carrying proposals to the United Nations.

Upon leaving the San Martin Palace at 2230 he has consulted by reporters and his categorical answer was that "they carry no proposal."

He confirmed that on his trip to Havana, Cuba, he will make a stopover at Galeao Airport [as received] tomorrow to meet his Brazilian counterpart Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro.

He declined to mention the matters that he will discuss with Saraiva, but when asked whether the Malvinas issue would be analyzed he answered "of course."

A reporter dwelt on the trip to the United Nations by Planning Secretary Gen Jose Miret and military household chief Rear Adm Benito Moya.

Costa Mendez' categorical answer was: "No, sir, they are taking no proposal. They couldn't have submitted it because they left this afternoon." [as received]

UN SECRETARY GENERAL MEETS ROS, UK ENVOY

PY020217 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] United Nations, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister Enrique Ros entered the UN secretariat building a few minutes before 1300 local time (2100 GMT) [times as received] today for a meeting with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the latter's current round of negotiations over the Malvinas crisis.

When asked before entering about press reports that Great Britain has reportedly given Argentina a final opportunity to surrender before Puerto Argentino is attacked, he said that he had no received any such demand which had been broadcast by the BBC.

A few minutes before Ros arrived, the British representative, Ambassador Anthony Parsons, had left the UN building after having a 1-hour meeting with Perez de Cuellar. Parsons was also asked about the same rumor, which he himself had made known to the secretary general. The British diplomat categorically denied the report and said that Great Britain demanded what it had demanded from the beginning, that is, the withdrawal of the Argentine troops according to Point 2 of Security Council Resolution No 502.

Parsons said that he had had, during that 1 hour of work, very intensive discussions with the secretary general regarding clarifications which he brought from his government this afternoon.

He also said that the handing over of the secretary general's provisional report to the Security Council tomorrow does not mean the end of life, thus indicating that the talks might continue after the delivery of the report tomorrow, Wednesday.

POLITICAL LEADERS COMMENT ON CRISIS, AFTERMATH

PY012258 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1930 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Leaders of various political currents today made statements about the South Atlantic conflict and the situation in Argentina after the undeclared war with Great Britain.

While the head of the Intransigent Party Oscar Alende requested the urgent implementation of a "national emergency plan," Radical Raul Alfonsin warned that "Argentine society may run the risk of dissolution" while "some of the symptoms of the crisis of the country is suffering persist."

Former Justicialist Economy Minister Antonio Cafiero in turn denied that the "alternative of liberalism" is "statism, populism or socialism," and he added that "the liberal process was exhausted before 2 April."

Ricardo Yofre, who was undersecretary of the presidency during Gen Jorge Videla's administration, indicated that "the armed forces are the only ones capable of calling the other sectors of the country together to set up a political plan which may establish new goals," while he denied that a civilian may lead an alleged "transition government" once the dispute with the United Kingdom is finished.

In a long article published by the newspaper CLARIN today, Alende maintained that "in the regrettable instance of war victory by the imperial and colonialist forces united in a spurious alliance, reconquest will have to be carefully prepared, such as in the historical beginning, to give battle at the time and place chosen beforehand."

He said that in any case -- defeat, negotiated agreement or an Argentine military victory -- "history will not turn backward."

He stated: "In case of an honorable defeat, popular complaints and waves of protest will increase; if the dispute continues, we will use the force of law and reason against the reason of force."

He indicated: "But likewise in case of complete victory, the old myths of the merchants who sold us the fallacy of the obliging image of a happy colony with arguments prefabricated at the universities of plunder will no longer be accepted."

In statements made to a radio program, Ricardo Yofre expressed his inclination toward "giving Argentina a new starting point, even more so after this war is over."

He pointed out: "A new starting point should mean progress toward a stable democracy within a pluralist framework."

He explained: "When this war is over, the armed forces have to call political, union and management sectors together -- the whole country -- and agree on a government plan including economic measures for the stage which will begin."

Radical Raul Alfonsin in turn encouraged seeking a "quick solution to a very serious national emergency."

During a talk given at the Belgrano University, the Radical Civic Union (UCR) leader gave his opinion: "With the present picture of a poverty-stricken middle class; of working sectors practically living on the fringe of society; with the loss of the social practice of democracy; with the corruption signified by the toleration of authoritarian forms that continuously deal blows to our daily life, our society runs the risk of dissolution."

Regarding the proposal promoted by the UCR renewal and change sector which he leads, that former President Arturo Illia should head a "transition government," Alfonsin said that this democratic plan seeks a quick solution to a very serious national emergency, and I believe we must rely on the Argentine moral forces, of which he (Illia) is, in my opinion, a perfect example."

Former Justicialist Economy Minister Antonio Cafiero concluded that "the economy of the market, in its orthodox version, cannot be the response to such serious problems as those raised by a war."

The former official who was interviewed by newsmen of a radio program anticipated that "the emergency the republic is experiencing, worsened by the Malvinas Crisis and the blockade imposed on us from abroad, will require heroic methods for a very long period of time."

He anticipated that "we are going to have a guided economy, which does not necessarily mean statism; we are doing to have a degree of active state intervention, fitting the emergency the country has gone through."

He pointed out: "Peronism is opposed to a particular ideology serving doubtful theoretical and doctrinary conceptions of such mechanisms in a basic economic system."

COSTA MENDEZ DEPARTING FOR CUBA 2 JUNE

PY012107 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2030 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will leave for Havana, Cuba, tomorrow at 0930 aboard a special air force plane.

The foreign minister will preside over the Argentine delegation attending the nonaligned countries meeting.

MILITARY COMMITTEE WORK GROUP MEETS 1 JUNE

PY011318 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1219 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri is working in the Libertador Building in his capacity as army commander in chief.

A military spokesman has reported that a meeting of the military committee will be held at army headquarters at 1000. The meeting will also be attended by the "Malvinas" work group.

Details of Meeting

FYO11639 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1430 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] This morning the military junta reviewed the latest belligerent events taking place on the Malvinas Islands, and the implications of the trip which Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will make to attend the meeting of nonaligned countries.

The meeting began at the Libertador Building, headquarters of the army, at 1000, attended by Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, Adm Jorge Anaya and Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo.

Initially, the three commanders discussed the Malvinas situation making special reference to the preparations which are being made in Puerto Argentino in view of the imminent final attack that the British forces are likely to launch against Argentine positions in that city.

Costa Mendez joined the meeting later to exchange views regarding the trip he will make to Havana today, or tomorrow at the latest, to participate in the meeting of the nonaligned countries which is already in session. Costa Mendez will thus join the Argentine mission which is already in Havana.

Gustavo Figueroa, chief of the Foreign Ministry cabinet who is presently in the United States, will also travel to Havana to join the Argentine delegation.

LAMI DOZO MEETS WITH AIR FORCE GENERALS

FYO12104 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 20006 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (TELAM) — Argentine Air Force Commander Basilio Lami Dozo is holding an informative meeting regarding the situation in the southern archipelagos with Argentine Air Force commanders.

The meeting which started at 1700 is being held at the Condor Building, the air force headquarters.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES ON MILITARY OPERATIONS

UK Losses as of 31 May

FYO11346 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1325 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 115]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that as of 31 May 1982 the losses sustained by enemy forces are as follows:

1. Aircraft: 25 Sea Harriers or Harriers destroyed; 22 helicopters destroyed or seriously damaged. Those planes which may have been put out of service due to the attacks carried out against the "Atlantic Conveyor," the aircraft carriers or those which may have been lost as the various vessels transporting them were sunk or damaged are not included in this report.

2. Vessels: 1 aircraft carrier out of combat; 2 class 42 destroyers sunk; 1 class 42 destroyer seriously damaged; 2 class county destroyers damaged, 1 of them seriously; 2 class 21 frigates sunk; 2 class 22 frigates seriously damaged; 2 class Leander frigates seriously damaged; 5 or 6 unidentified frigates damaged; 2 landing vessels seriously damaged; 1 container ship "Atlantic Conveyer" transporting aircraft sunk.

This makes a total of 19 to 20 enemy vessels sunk and/or damaged up to date.

Bombardment of Mount Kent

PY011743 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1739 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 116]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that early today, 1 June 1982, air force planes bombarded the area of Mount Kent on Soledad Island. The results of this attack are being evaluated.

Hospital Ship Arrives

PY011902 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1846 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 117]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that the hospital ship A.R.A. Bahia Paraiso arrived today, 1 June 1982, at 1245 at the Bay of Puerto Argentino. In line with the Geneva Convention, the ship is painted white with red crosses which are its identifying marks.

The ship was escorted by a tugboat and was scheduled to dock at 1300.

The ship will take those wounded now staying in Puerto Argentino and later will meet at a place to be determined by the respective commanders with the British hospital ship Uganda from which it will pick up those wounded Argentine personnel that are aboard that ship. Upon the conclusion of this operation, the Argentine ship will sail to a port on our seacoast.

UK Admits Invincible Attack

PY012045 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2038 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 118]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that today, 1 June 1982, the British Defense Ministry has admitted that an Argentine Air Force attack has been perpetrated against the aircraft carrier Invincible, but it has minimized the effects of the attack and it has not supplied information on casualties or damage.

Harrier Jet Shot Down

PY012336 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2331 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 119]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that today, 1 June 1982, in the afternoon, a British Harrier jet that was attacking Puerto Argentino positions was downed by Argentine anti-aircraft fire, and that the pilot was able to eject and fell in the sea.

1 June Operations

PY020205 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 120]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that today, 1 June 1982, there were confrontations only between small enemy groups and Argentine advance troops. Operations are being carried out in a normal manner and in compliance with established plans.

PLANES HARASS TROOPS ADVANCING ON PUERTO ARGENTINO

PY011416 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1400 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- A high-ranking military source disclosed that air force and navy aircraft today harassed British troops which are advancing on Puerto Argentino and attacked enemy supply sources in San Carlos Bay.

In the meantime, the positions of Argentine troops in the capital of the Malvinas Islands have been reinforced, with the establishment of what is known as "lines of resistance" and with the emplacement of mines around the city.

The source also pointed out that British movement toward Puerto Argentino is "slow and difficult" and that Argentine air attacks have caused casualties and the loss of materiel (helicopters and arms).

MILITARY SOURCE EVALUATES BRITISH LOSSES

PY011749 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- A military source disclosed that the number of British dead as a result of the air, sea and ground confrontations in the South Atlantic allegedly amount to 600 men, while the losses of war materiel during the battles with Argentine forces is estimated at approximately $7 billion.

The source added that the losses of British ships amounts to over $6 billion in addition to $500 million for the destruction of helicopters and planes.

This evaluation does not include expenses for maintenance, transport of equipment, ammunition, provisions and logistic support for the troops.

WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT FALKLANDS HOSPITAL

PY020008 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2058 GMT 1 Jun 82

[By British reporters in the Malvinas Islands]

[Text] Puerto San Carlos, Soledad Island, 1 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- Surgeons today worked against the clock at an improvised field hospital on the Malvinas Islands carrying out operation No 100.

Approximately 220 Argentine and British soldiers have been treated at the hospital, which was set up at an abandoned cold storage plant close to the beachhead established by Great Britain on 21 May.

Surgeon Commander Rick Jolly, who was proud of his hospital, said: Despite the horrors of modern war, our greatest pride is that all of those who have been admitted here alive have also been taken alive to the hospital ship.

After the first important ground battle, the seizure of Goose Green and Port Darwin by British paratroopers on Friday, helicopter-transported wounded soldiers filled the hospital. The British Defense Ministry has reported that 31 British soldiers and 120 Argentine soldiers were wounded during that combat.

All wounded soldiers admitted to the hospital today were Argentine.

Jolly said that some of the operations were incredible and that two doctors had to treat some wounds which had been without treatment for 3 days.

Great Britain announced today that it would very soon hand over the wounded Argentine soldiers who are presently aboard the Uganda hospital ship to an Argentine hospital ship to return them home.

A large number of Argentine prisoners have been crowded inside barbed wire jails guarded by armed British soldiers at the Puerto San Carlos base. Many prisoners have been put together, and they had to jump in the mud as much as possible to warm up due to the icy wind.

GOVERNOR LEOPOLDO BRAVO MAY TRAVEL TO MOSCOW

PY202338 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Government House sources today indicated that they do not know if there is a possibility that the national government will send San Juan Province Governor Leopoldo Bravo to Moscow to explain to the Soviet Government the Argentine position in the South Atlantic crisis.

In answer to a question by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Bravo today said that he is willing to eventually fulfill that mission "if President Leopoldo Galtieri believes it necessary."

The meeting held by Soviet Ambassador to Argentina Sergey Striganov with General Galtieri yesterday created expectations because the Anglo-Argentine confrontation could have been discussed.

Striganov told reporters that Moscow supports Argentina politically and diplomatically, but responded with a laconic "no comment" when asked if this support could be expanded to other fields.

Bravo was ambassador to the Soviet Union before his designation as governor of San Juan last January.

The San Juan governor today emphasized that the relations which Argentina maintains with the Soviet Union are similar "to the relations we maintain with the other countries of the world."

He said: "I believe that when these relations are carried out on an equal basis, it is important, especially when that friendly country wants to cooperate."

AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL OFFERS GRAINS IN USSR

PY011852 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Moscow, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- David Lacroze, the under secretary for agriculture who serves as auditor on the Argentine National Grain Board, today arrived in Moscow to discuss the possibility of placing more Argentine farm products on the Soviet market.

To this effect, Lacroze will begin his meetings with (Foreign Trade Deupty Minister) Boris Gordeyev tomorrow.

The negotiations will last 4 days and it was announced that once the Argentine official becomes familiar with the Soviet plans regarding the purchase of grains, he will offer what remains to be sold of this year's Argentine grain harvest. According to what Lacroze himself stated in Argentina before departing for Moscow, this amounts to between 4 and 5 million tons of sorghum and corn.

ECONOMY MINISTER COMMENTS ON FOREIGN DEBT

PY011802 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] In the course of a television program broadcast last night, the Argentine economy minister said that Argentina for 120 years had always settled its debts.

He added, however, that we do not pay those who attack us militarily, but we are nevertheless making note of the expiration date in order to free the assets as soon as they free ours.

With reference to other countries supporting Great Britain, Minister Roberto Alemann said that Argentina is paying them since they have not adopted financial measures against our country.

Regarding former statements in which he said he had found support in the United States treasury, Minister Alemann explained that this was quite clear in the way the Treasury Department of the United States had clarified to private bankers the false information released by British news agencies on Argentina's handling of the foreign debt.

REFINANCING OF FOREIGN DEBT PLAN UNDERWAY

PY020145 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- The foreign financial obligations which Argentina will have to honor during the present month total $1.5 billion. Economy Ministry sources have reported that the international banking system will grant a short-term refinancing of this amount, until the outcome of the war over the Malvinas Islands is defined.

In order to obtain a postponement of the maturity dates of the private debts, the national government plans to grant a subsidy through the exchange rate adjustment guarantee. The private financial obligations which have to be met in June amount to about one-third of the total Argentine debt falling due this month.

The remaining $1 billion belongs to financial obligations of the public sector for which the international banking system will grant a very short-term postponement, as it has done since the beginning of the South Atlantic conflict.

To these obligations would be added a number of loans which became due for payment during the 2-month period of April and May, but which have been refinanced for 60 and 30 days, respectively.

FOREIGN CURRENCY RESERVES INCREASE IN MAY

PY020237 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0140 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- The foreign currency reserves grew by $137 million in May, despite the fact that there was a decline of $100 million in the last week of the month. This is shown by the balance sheet of the Central Bank closed on 31 May, showing the situation in the last week of May. During that week there was also a large increase in money in circulation, amounting to 6 percent.

PLANNING SECRETARY ON ECONOMIC REVIVAL

PY020030 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1950 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Planning Secretary Jose Miret has stated that "a general renewal of both the domestic and the foreign policy" should be undertaken, beginning from the time of the recovery of the Malvinas. He added: "the economic revival should have priority in this revewal."

Miret made his statements to the monthly PRENSA ECONOMICA which published them in its lastest issue.

The planning secretary said: "We are aware that this country will have to face serious challenges after the achievement of 2 April, both on the internal and the external fronts." He continued: "We must, therefore, show firmness and, above all, maintain great national unity." He emphasized that "that unity should give room for a deep self-criticism among all sectors."

He maintained: "The government is realistic and has appraised the real extent of national solidarity produced by these events, and it does not mistake this strong patriotic feeling for a national cause in unconditional support of its administration." He asserted: "It will, therefore, take due advantage of the national unity that has been achieved in order to reach agreements on solutions to the great problems of the country."

When asked about the prospects of achieving a revival of the production apparatus, General Miret said that it is necessary to attain "a genuine revival which can be permanent only if it is based on a true curing of the production apparatus." He added: "I believe that there are enough mechanisms to attain a certain degree of revival without affecting the struggle against inflation too much."

Referring to the suspension of the privatization process, Miret said that "I believe that right now it is more effective to diminish the state through the reduction of its bureaucratic organs rather than through a privatization process which would take a longer time and be more complex." He added: "In the present situation it appears to be a simpler objective to reduce the expenditures of national, provincial and municipal organs, as well as unessential expenditures of state companies." He stressed: "All this has a considerable influence on the national budget."

In another part of the interview he said that "it should be kept in mind that the privatization program is not an objective that can be reached overnight, because there should not only be a will to sell but also one to buy." At this time and under the present circumstances "it is clear that the subject of privatization is not a priority objective." He explained that "there is a temporary suspension in decisionmaking on this matter. As you know, there are many opinions regarding this subject, some of which we are looking upon positively and others negatively."

Regarding the adjustments of the rates of public services he said that "right now it is not thought timely to make adjustments because of the fact that there is a salary freeze, and it has not been deemed suitable to make adjustments in the rates at the same pace it would be necessary to do it."

Regarding salaries, the planning secretary said that "unfortunately, we are living at a time when we must necessarily ask for greater sacrifices than foreseen." He continued: "But the really important thing is that the great effort and sacrifice this implies have been generously understood by all sectors without exception." He maintained that "this is proven by the fact that there have been no social conflicts, although we are perfectly aware of the situation being faced by the wage-earning sectors and that their claims are just in most cases."

BRIEFS

BUS SERVICE FROM PERU -- Lima, 11 May (AFP) -- The Expresso Internacional Ormeno land transport firm of Peru today announced the inauguration of roundtrip service between Lima and Buenos Aires, with a stop in Santiago, Chile. The 4-day bus trip will leave Lima the 2d, 12th and 22d of each month. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0159 GMT 12 May 82 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARIES -- Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Interior Minister Maj Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean today installed Dr Enrique Alejandro Molina as the new under secretary for institutional affairs and confirmed Col Bernardo Jose Menendez as under secretary of interior. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0128 GMT 29 Apr 82 PY]

NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR -- Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- President Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri today accepted the credentials of the new ambassador of Nigeria to Argentina, Mohammed Saguid Umar. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1455 GMT 26 Apr 82 PY]

BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR -- Buenos Aires, 28 May (TELAM) -- Brig Gen Antonio Reque Teran Castro was accredited as the Bolivian ambassador to Argentina today when he presented his credentials to President Leopoldo Galtieri. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1358 GMT 28 May 82 PY]

PRESIDENT TORRELIO VILLA ADDRESSES ARMED FORCES

PY281951 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1443 GMT 28 May 82

[Speech by President Celso Torrelio Villa during a ceremony commemorating the 153d anniversary of the Armed Forces General Staff held at Miraflores Armed Forces Headquarters — live]

[Text] Ministers of state, Mr Chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, generals and rear admirals, armed forces commanders, Mr Armed Forces Inspector General, chiefs of general staffs of the armed forces branches, Mr Commanding General of the Bolivian Police, distinguished national authorities, diplomatic representatives, military attaches of friendly countries, generals, officers, cadets, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the armed forces, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

On the occasion of the commemoration of the anniversary of the creation of the Armed Forces General Staff, my first wish is to sincerely congratulate all of my comrades and at the same time remind them that the delicate function of command is not a privilege but the consequence of the military organization, based on rights and duties which are clearly set forth for the different ranks and which are basically established by the armed forces organic law, by the law on personnel management and by military regulations.

Those basic principles should be the pride of generals, admirals, and all officers, who lead and guide their subordinates not only as a result of a strict military training and based on the most fervent patriotic feelings, but also by permanent observance of our own regulations.

We the military have had to assume great historical responsibilities, not only because of the particular circumstances occurring in the nation, but also because of our duty to prevent the destruction of our homeland from inside and outside.

We have assumed that responsibility, being fully aware of the risks each one of us had to face both from a personal and an institutional viewpoint, since all government tasks, particularly in such a difficult country as Bolivia, are hard tasks because they relentlessly wear down and jeopardize our institution.

However, for us, militarymen of honor, who have not opportunistically joined the armed forces but rather from our patriotic dedication, such risks are ephemeral because the only lasting thing is the homeland and its defense.

Truly, the situation in which we found the country, both politically and in socioeconomic areas, was marked by such chaos coming from a long past that at first, rather than adopting lasting solutions, we had to patch up and mend a country which was collapsing everywhere.

The chaos I am talking about was not the result of actions by the government. It was a heavy and bitter burden from the past, from a past when rulers disregarded Bolivia's future and engaged in a transient and opportunistic program which we flatly rejected, since we were aware both of the historical role we had to play and especially of the fact that we are not a government of either parties or fronts but the very expression of the armed forces themselves.

Our action was then aimed at structuring and implementing our economic recovery and an orderly enforcement of the law, which the armed forces have never rejected but which they, based on a constitutional mandate, should rather maintain as the highest expression of the people, of whom they are an inseparable part.

Some groups and persons, interested in other schemes which disagree with the national spirit, have not clearly understood the actions undertaken to accomplish that purpose.

The armed forces government has also been termed weak. This was likely to happen, because from its very beginning the government I preside over in keeping with a decision by the armed forces has sought to improve the internal and external image of the nation, of its government and of the armed forces themselves, not only through actions directed at maintaining a permanent respect for the rights set forth in the Constitution but through a dialogue, aimed at achieving the reunification of the Bolivian people in an atmosphere of peace and fruitful coexistence.

This attitude has also been misinterpreted by those who definitively regard themselves as he owners of the national future, or who seek to change by means of subversion our customs, our own being and our historical roots.

The accusations of weakness and of lack of credibility are aimed today, as in the past, at a single and exclusive goal: to encourage divisions within the armed forces and to recruit for the ranks of subversion those comrades who, based on circumstances and overestimating personal ambitions, may lend themselves to maneuvers which would only bring further unrest for our homeland and discredit for the armed forces.

Complying with the mandate of its members, the armed forces government decreed less than 48 hours ago the full enforcement of the Constitution with all its implications as a measure prior to the accomplishment of a broad national accord which will implement the program of our returning to constitutional life.

We have asked all representative parties to appoint their delegates to a commission charged with laying the groundwork for that great national accord which represents nothing other than the armed forces' will to achieve, for all Bolivians, an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence and the just and lasting enforcement of the law.

We pursue that goal also because we believe that the Bolivian people can no longer behave like a nation without an identity, in a political arena in which the excitement of sectarian passions has been a permanent feature. We want to give the Bolivian people status and a dimension in closer agreement with their human nature and with their own rights which we, the military, deem just.

On the other hand, and it is appropriate to say this on this occasion, the armed forces cannot regard as serious those who, instructed to do so or trying to take advantage of past and irreversible situations, ask for a return to the past.

Only those who have lost their ability to guide their own individual or collective existence can advocate an action, which would be like returning to their childhood or stopping the course of time to the advantage of obsolete attitudes or positions.

The men of good will and the decent and conscientious societies, among which Bolivia has always ranked as an example, have always marched ahead, in defiance of time and space, pursuing a better future.

While conveying once again my gratitude and greetings to all generals, admirals, chiefs, officers and employees who belong to the armed forces for their self-denial, their discipline and the esprit de corps with which they fulfill their daily duties, I will only ask that they continue working with the same devotion for the prestige of our institution and for the security and greatness of our beloved Bolivian fatherland. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT-ELECT BETANCUR ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

PA010438 Paris AFP in Spanish 2157 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Bogota, 31 May (AFP) -- Belisario Betancur Cuartas, Conservative president-elect of Colombia, announced today that his immediate goals do not include resuming diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Colombia and Cuba broke relations on 24 March 1981 after the invasion by a column of the 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas via southwestern Colombia was foiled. The column had been trained in Cuba.

Betancur Cuartas told newsmen today that as long as President Fidel Castro's regime maintains its objective of intervening in the domestic affairs of countries like Colombia, relations will not be resumed.

"I will not do it," Betancur replied flatly, dismissing any possibility of a resumption of relations between Colombia and Cuba.

Betancur Cuartas, who won yesterday's presidential elections, also rejected the possibility of creating an OAS without the United States, as was proposed recently.

"An OAS without the United States is absurd," stated the leader who will take office 7 August when Liberal Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala will turn over the presidency.

Betancur Cuartas today also criticized Colombia's abstentionist position at the OAS regarding the recognition of Argentine sovereignty to the Malvinas.

BRIEFS

CARTAGENA AGREEMENT OFFICIAL RESIGNS -- Bogota, 10 May (EFE) -- Colombian economist Edgardo Moncayo Jimenez has resigned as member of the board of the Cartagena agreement because of "urgent commitments" to the national government. Apparently, Jimenez' decision is connected with the change of government that will occur on 7 August, a month after the board begins its operation. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0210 GMT 11 May 82 PA]

GASTROENTERITIS, TYPHOID FEVER -- Barranquilla, Colombia, 10 May (EFE) -- Twenty children died and 200 are in serious condition as a result of gastroenteritis and typhoid fever in Fundacion, northern Colombia. Civic leader Hernan Gomez Pelaez reported this, noting that these epidemics are caused by a lack of potable water in this region, which is a traditional farming and cattle area. There is another gastroenteritis epidemic in Repelon, in Atlantico Department, but the health authorities there said that the necessary measures to prevent it from spreading have already been taken. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0238 GMT 11 May 82 PA]

NOGUES ADDRESSES OAS FOREIGN MINISTERS

PY290255 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 1 Jun 82 p 4

[Speech delivered by Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues at a consultative meeting of OAS foreign ministers in Washington; date not given]

[Text] "Mr President, foreign ministers, special delegates, Mr Assistant Secretary General:

The events which took place after 26 April 1982 fully explain the eloquent speeches reviewing these events, which are of public knowledge, and which we have listened to or presented yesterday and today.

But the undeniable fact is that we have returned to these premises, in response to an urgent summons, because of an American solidarity and sense of duty, no matter how new or ancient the origin of this very serious armed conflict in the South Atlantic may be.

Mr President, our sense of solidarity is based on the geographical unity of our continent, in the history of its common vicissitudes and in the unanimous desire for emancipation from foreign dominance which, as the Paraguayan intellectual Juan E. O'Leary stated, "was a practical demonstration that American territory belongs to the American peoples."

Our American solidarity is, on the other hand, unavoidable and necessary because the huge but rewarding task of achieving the progress of our nations should be based on it every day.

This is the objective and reason for this new meeting in view of the dramatic situation which has broken out in the South Atlantic. It is true that some faits accomplis represent a real or potential threat to the peace of the entire continent, and the chance to get rid of these threats will become more scarce as time goes by. Therefore, our main efforts should now be dedicated to securing an immediate cessation of military actions. Yet this urgent objective does not seem to be favored by the position adopted by one of our members which has announced its decision to provide military aid to Great Britain, and this can provoke the logical reaction of the other party attempting to secure the cooperation of those who can provide it. This procedure is not the most appropriate one to prevent us all from being engulfed in a whirlpool.

The Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty naturally was not instituted to channel the present conflict between Argentina and Great Britain through the methods for peaceful solution outlined in Article 2 of the Rio de Janeiro Treaty, since the United Kingdom is not bound by its provisions. Yet this assembly can and must contribute with its decision to immediately restore peace and to stop the aggression.

My country, Paraguay, has sufficient qualifications to demand that peace be restored. My fatherland has had a heroic experience of what war means, of what two long international wars mean. These wars were fought on its own territory, and even today we are making a great effort to overcome the political and socioeconomic consequences of those conflicts. These wars resulted in the loss of part of our national territory, in the sacrifice of thousands of lives and in a heavy erosion of the national wealth.

With a genuine Christian spirit we are appealing for peace today for all peoples because, having ourselves experienced the scourge of war, we consider paramount the peace the Paraguayan people have built and are enjoying today thanks to the democratic leadership of our constitutional president, Gen Alfredo Stroessner.

With fraternal friendship we join the Republic of Argentina in the significant effort it is making to secure a decent, just and honorable peace in the light of the guiding principles outlined in the UN Charter, so that under the aegis of this peace the noble Argentine nation, jointly with its sister American nations, may continue to travel on the luminous path of our common destiny.

Thank you, Mr President. [applause]

NOGUES MEETS WITH ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER

PY312103 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 31 May 82 p 12

[Excerpt] Last Friday, during a break in the 20th OAS ministers meeting in Washington, foreign ministers Alberto Nogues and Nicanor Costa Mendez held a meeting during which they discussed subjects of interest for the two countries. This was disclosed by authorized sources who release information granted by the Paraguayan diplomatic representation in that capital.

One of the subjects which foreign ministers Nogues and Costa Mendez discussed was the problem regarding the Pilcomayo River and the diversion canal built by the Argentines and which has not been completely closed so far. On this occasion the Paraguayan foreign minister pointed out to his Argentine counterpart the urgent need to adopt the necessary measures to definitely solve that problem.

The authorized source stated that for the time being the possibility that the Paraguayan Government should submit another strong protest to the Argentine Government on this matter was dismissed due to the difficult and critical situation the neighboring country is experiencing.

However, during the meeting with Costa Mendez, Minister Nogues reportedly specifically voiced Paraguay's concern over the fact that this subject has been postponed too long. The reply was that Argentina, according to its current ability, will try to fulfill the commitment officially undertaken. The possibility that work will resume shortly to close the canal built at Puerto Cirigoyen, on the border with our country, was not dismissed.

Another subject discussed by the two foreign ministers was the state of the joint Argentine-Paraguayan project for the exploitation of hydroelectric resources on the Parana River.

PURCHASE OF LIBYAN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS NEGOTIATED

PY300335 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA 11 May 82 p 3

[Excerpt] Authoritative sources of the national government reported yesterday that our country will buy petroleum by-products from Libya. The news came out in a recent meeting between Dr Julio C. Gutierrez, president of Paraguayan Petroleum, and the members of the Libyan delegation which participated in a recent meeting in the city of Houston, Texas, in the United States. It seems from the news that the Libyan Government would have no problems in providing us with petroleum by-products directly without intermediaries at a reasonable price; therefore, the negotiations begun by Dr Gutierrez will go ahead.

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS FALKLANDS ISSUE

PY011452 Paris AFP in Spanish 1321 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Jun (AFP) -- The recent decision made by the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) on the Malvinas war was termed as a pronouncement which has major political importance by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero.

Valdes Otero chaired the TIAR meetings which discussed the Malvinas issue. Upon his return to this city, Valdes stated that peace must be sought with even more obstinacy than that of those who pursue war and solutions to conflicts through the use of force.

The TIAR condemned Great Britain for the armed attack against Argentina and it gave freedom of action to the signatory countries of the defensive pact to give Argentina the aid they deem appropriate.

Valdes said that Uruguay, the same as the other countries, is not bound by the resolution to give military aid to Argentina, but that each country can do so under the auspices of its own government.

During the meeting, Uruguay reiterated its solidarity with the Argentine claim of sovereignty over the territory of the Malvinas islands.

Regarding the deterioration of relations with the United States, Valdes stressed that he did not notice any negative reactions during his stay in Washington and New York, and that he carried out his activities as usual.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON POLITICAL PARTY ACTIVITIES

PY020037 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpt] During an exclusive interview with El Espectador and with Radio Sport and Cadena de Oro radio stations of the interior, the interior minister stated that the bans which have still not been lifted will be maintained until September 1991, as provided for in Article No 4, since the studies on lifting the ban on political parties are exhausted.

Gen Yamandu Trinidad stated, however, that the executive branch may order a new study of the subject in the future, but this has not been decided yet, nor is there any reason for this.

In referring to the resumption of activities by political parties, he stated that the current mechanisms for this purpose will continue to be expanded as of the approval of the law regarding political parties, (?unless) the framework for the freedom of these activities becomes that provided for in Law No 1897.

The interior minister also termed as groundless the accusations made by political party representatives who attended the meetings of the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission (COMASPO) that the armed forces have failed to fulfill their commitments by modifying the political party draft bill.

Trinidad stated that the process and the tools established for its development are the sole responsibility of the armed forces. He added that the meetings held with politicians were exclusively at a consultative level. In this regard he added that it has still not been decided whether the political delegates will be summoned during the new stages of the timetable in which the most urgent issue is the reform of the electoral law.

PRESIDENT HERRERA CAMPINS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA011955 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2305 GMT 31 May 82

[News conference given by Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, place not given -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question by unidentified speaker] On the occasion of the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Andean Pact integration process, it was recommended that LAFTA be strengthened and that the treaty that ordered the creation of the Andean Court of Justice be implemented. I would like you, Mr President, whom I thank for this invitation, to tell us if these plans should be endorsed now that we are facing the British attack on Latin America, which will radically alter our economic international relations with the power centers of Britain and with those who have supported it; and secondly, please tell me if, in view of this aggression, you feel that a sort of continental or hemispheric nationalism can arise at this moment, or a sort of union of all for one and one for all in defense of our markets, raw materials and territorial integrity and permanently against economic colonialism or any other type of colonialism.

[Answer] Your question is interesting and I will rapidly answer it. It is true that when we met to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Cartagena agreement, we adopted a number of measures, or rather, voiced the intention to adopt certain attitudes which went beyond the scope of what is known as the Andean subregional pact. This has been by far the most successful integration process in Latin America, although it has had some problems. Naturally, based on the way LAFTA was at the time, we tried to reinforce it to get it out of stagnation.

Unfortunately, LAFTA was unable to overcome its own limitations and after 20 years of operation it gave way to a new organization, the Latin American Integration Association, ALADI, which we could say has a more specific significance. We are trying to achieve -- by means of understanding, rapprochement and Latin American integration -- our potential. This need becomes more evident as a result of the problem caused by the British aggression against the Republic of Argentina in the South Atlantic and the position taken by the United States. Therefore, not just the Latin American governments, but the peoples in general are noting seriously the need for a pause to reflect on the new model of international relations in order to assume the common defense f our interests on the continent.

There is indisputably determination. An indication of this is that on two occasions, within a very short space of time, the signatories of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, have made -- by 17 votes with 4 abstentions and no objections -- decisions that did not take into account the position taken by the United States, something that had not been seen since 1964, when for the first time the OAS voted to favor of a resolution against the dictatorial regime of Anastasio Somoza in Nicaragua, a resolution that was not supported by the United States.

[Question] (Colomoto Alvarez). Mr President, to turn to the elections in Colombia, although you said today that you always got along well with [Colombian President-elect Belisario] Betancur, do you not think that the people of that neighboring country have demonstrated that a former president can be defeated in an election?

[Answer] That is what I call a leading question. I am going to answer it directly, allowing my friend the (?former) president to judge the intention of the person who is asking it. The truth is that I have been pleased to see that in our continent a process of democratization is taking place and that this new phase of Colombian elections has been carried out with greater participation than in similar circumstances in the past, when there was a disquieting problem of electoral absenteeism.

To judge from all the available reports, the winner was the Conservative candidate, Belisario Betancur, an old and good friend of mine, not only because of his patronym -- which has nothing to do with a similar Venezuelan name -- but because we have had a relationship for years, a relationship that is not assiduously cultivated, but one which I would say is characterized by a great amount of affection, cordiality and understanding on both sides.

Belisario Betancur comes to the presidency of Colombia after being a presidential candidate on several occasions, and at a time that is very interesting for Latin America and of course, for the entire world, in which there are certainly signs of crisis. His victory is an indication that democracy permits such things -- that at a specific moment, it is possible to triumph over a candidate who has an affiliation with the government, just as the opposite can occur, as I fear will happen in 1983 in another country that I do not care to name.

[Question] (Valoro Neto). Mr President, in recent statements former President [Carlos Andres] Perez asked why the government has not consulted the nation about the upcoming expiration of the Port-of-Spain protocol and, on electoral topics, he said that at that moment Democratic Action, AD, would win 80 percent of the votes, because in his opinion the Social Christian Party, COPEI, has been the worst government in Venezuelan history.

[Answer] He has a very bad memory [laughs], and not just for figures. If the government begins a period of consultation, they say: The government is not serious. It doesn't know what to do and is asking the various Venezuelan sectors what path should be taken with regard to this indisputably delicate negotiation on the problem of our historical claim to the Essequibo area.

I can tell you that very soon we are going to, first of all, have the foreign minister make a statement to the congress regarding Guyana. This will take place in midweek, probably on Wednesday. This will be, shall we say, advance notice of what we feel the Venezuelan position should be. There will be consultations in the next few days. We of course feel that such consultations should take place, but this will be done on the basis of listing options, so that organized national public can give an opinion. As we know, the Port-of-Spain protocol legally expires on 18 June.

Regarding the former president's statements, I wish to note one thing. Whatever one's position may be regarding the thorny problem of whether the people vote for a candidate or for the government, I wish to say just this: When I won the elections in 1978, it was not exactly because the preceding regime had been excellent, or optimum, or anything of the sort. That is something that should not be forgotten.

[Question] (Marcos Torres) of ELITE. Good evening, Mr President. The much-debated Port-of-Spain protocol expires in June. Venezuela will have to reaffirm its territorial defense. However, we have unprotected borders, while Guyana has greatly developed the so-called area of dispute. Mr President, will our vague border policy be maintained in this regrettable and dangerous situation?

[Answer] We have raised a real national awareness of the border problem. Of course, I do not mean that this government was alone in this, because previous governments also applied themselves to the problem of the border, their development, security and defense. There may be various reasons for the failure to do more than was done.

One of my concerns as president has been to try to give the greatest possible security to Guyana, not only because of its geographic position, but also because of its industrial economic potential, considering that all Venezuela's heavy industries in aluminum, steel and iron and hydroelectricity are located there.

We have adopted a number of measures for external security and even for internal security that unfortunately had not been taken. These measures include not only the establishment of national guard garrisons in Guri, Puerto Ordaz and (Matanzas), but the placement of two brigades -- which we have activated, as is said militarily -- with one in (Taikal) in the Orinoco and the other in Upata and (Machipazi), attached to the jungle division.

When for the first time we invest the additional credit of some 300 million Bolivares that we have requested and that we have announced to the country, this will be invested in the necessary civilian and military infrastructure.

I returned this morning from Puerto Ordaz, where I attended the inauguration of an airbase, the first to be established there. It was really a very moving and impressive ceremony. One can be certain that the government will act in conformity with the provisions of international law, particularly the Geneva Convention. However, at no time is it neglecting the national borders or anything of the sort. Of course, the idea of developing our frontiers becomes more relevant daily. Indeed, only a few weeks ago, a workers bank was established in Santa Elena de Uairen, where there had been no national financial organization to provide the facilities that that bank will offer.

We are determined, on both the Brazilian and Guyana borders, to carry out true development of border villages and to provide a more constant and improved presence of our armed forces in the area.

[Question] (Elesio Brito). Mr President, Venezuelan industrialists have announced plans to intensify their campaign against the Andean Pact and this nation's participation in the subregional agreement. This would apparently run contrary to the political movement being generated in Venezuela by the Anglo-Argentine conflict, a movement that actually appears to be directed against the United States.

In the meantime, the president of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, FEDECAMARAS, probably reflecting the feelings of Venezuelan businessmen, has proposed an open rapprochement with the United States by extending the Reagan plan for the Caribbean to Venezuela. Being aware of your opinion on the Andean Pact -- that, in view of what is happening in the South Atlantic, it would be regrettable to separate our country from the Andean Pact -- what is the executive's opinion of the businesmen's position on the Reagan plan, and how does the government plan to combat the new industrialist drive for a denunciation of the pact?

[Answer] I deeply regret that after all of the explanations and discussions some industrialist group should again propose that Venezuela withdraw from the Andean subregional pact. We also insist that the world situation today calls for great unity, political unity and economic integration; costs have increased so much that it is necessary, if a truly efficient level of production and productivity is to be achieved, to have very wide markets -- we believe that the Andean Pact offers this possibility. The thing is that we must fight against the germs of individualism that still exist within us and must make an effort to work in teams if we are to achieve truly positive results.

As far as Latin American integration is concerned, I believe that the attempted unification, which has undoubtedly become more vigorous as a result of the South Atlantic situation, should be pursued from the viewpoint of our own security, our own defense, our own expansion and our own development, so as to avoid dependence in various ways upon a great power that has failed the continent at a very delicate point in the world's history. I sincerely feel that no application of the Reagan plan would be advisable for Venezuela. The Reagan plan, particularly as it refers to cooperation in the form of public funds, is extremely limited.

What the United States, the U.S. Government, is offering to the Caribbean and Central American countries -- and it does not know if it will be able to provide this, because there is still some resistance within the Congress -- only equals what we Venezuelans and Mexico give yearly in the form of energy cooperation to the five Central American countries, to Panama and to the three east Caribbean countries: Santo Domingo, Jamaica and Barbados. Therefore, it is really insignificant, and it has yet to pass through the great filters of the U.S. Congress.

[Question] (Chaparro Balboa). Mr President, will Venezuela definitely provide military aid to Argentina at this difficult time in which the British forces are moving against the Argentine forces?

[Answer] I have asked for discretion, and I am going to add that not only the answers -- which should naturally be discreet -- but the questions as well should be discreet. What I can tell you, and you know this very well, is that we are extending extraordinary solidarity to the Republic of Argentina and that, particularly in the political, diplomatic and public opinion areas, we have extended great support via the solidarity and peace mission led by Gonzalo Garcia Bustillos, minister of the secretariat of the presidency, who is touring Europe, after having gone first to the Republic of Argentina itself.

[Question] (Escalante Luna). Mr President, returning to the border issue, there is an issue that attracted public attention for some time and that has now been forgotten: the matter of the New Tribes mission, which, according to what we have read, has been acting illegally in the country, in strategic areas especially, among our Indian communities. What official decision has been made in regard to the New Tribes?

[Answer] No decision has yet been made, because the working team that was appointed for this purpose has not yet submitted a final report. We are making an in-depth study of the situation, because a very dangerous trend has been developing in the country, in the Indian population, in the last few years. It is not generated by the Indians but by human factors that are alien to them. As is known, a good portion of our Indian population is located in the border region. This situation may also be the same in other countries, but let us restrict ourselves to Venezuela. The Indians are being told several things. First, they are being told that they should maintain their racial purity. An attempt is being made to practice racism among the Indians. Actually, they are tribes made up of a small number of people in which excessive and continuous endogamy could actually be biologically degenerative for the race.

We think that it is necessary to maintain cultural identity as a part of the national identity and that is why we are promoting bilingual education, for the first time in this country. We already have elementary school texts in the nine Indian languages.

Second, and closely linked to the first issue, there is an attempt to deny the advantages of miscegenation, which would be like denying ourselves, since we have been Mestizos, par excellence, not only in past centuries but now as well, when we have a new mixture, with new inputs of European and Latin American blood.

Third, an attempt is being made to convince the Indians that they constitute individual, autarchic, sovereign nations; that they are not Venezuelans, or Colombians, or Brazilians or Guyanese, but simply Indians of one tribe or sector. This is undeniably very dangerous for the nation. It is as dangerous as what some of the so-called missionaries of the New Tribes are doing, if the charges are confirmed.

However, you can be sure that when the report and definite conclusions are available, the government will make a decision based on the national interest.

We have now reached the end of the program. Thank you again for coming, and I hope to see you again at another conference. Thank you very much.

OFFICIAL SAYS RELATIONS WITH U.S. NOT STRAINED

PA010421 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Relations with the United States have not been strained because of U.S. Government support given to England in connection with the conflict on the Malvinas Islands, Mexico's under secretary of foreign relations has said.

(Alfonso Errotiz Baldia), who was interviewed shortly after President Lopez Portillo inaugurated the (?17th) assembly of the International Group for Mosquito Research, stressed that no effort should be spared to settle the problem of undocumented persons.

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT EXPLAINS VOTE ON FALKLANDS

FL011750 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0247 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Mexico City, 31 May (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Foreign Secretariat announced today that it voted in favor of an OAS resolution in support of Argentina demanding possession of the Malvinas "in order to strengthen Latin American solidarity."

The Foreign Secretariat released the document in which Rafael de la Colina, Mexico's ambassador to the OAS, explained on 29 May the favorable vote on the Malvinas resolution.

According to De la Colina, "we seek to strengthen Latin American solidarity, to safeguard the weakened inter-American system and to firmly support the UN secretary general in his efforts to achieve a peaceful solution."

He asked that "force not be resorted to" and deplored that "Great Britain should have excessively prolonged the negotiations" with Argentina over possession of the Malvinas. Argentina is currently claiming this territory, which "was stripped from that fraternal nation 150 years ago."

He added that "there are no legal grounds for the action carried out by England, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, to unilaterally take it upon itself to implement a resolution issued by the council without having received a specific mandate."

He also said that the Mexican Government feels that "it is the duty of all states to abstain from carrying out actions or adopting measures that might aggravate the existing situation or in any way hinder the efforts of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar."

DE LA MADRID DRAFTS CONSERVATIVE OIL POLICY PLAN

PA301456 Paris AFP in Spanish 1255 GMT 30 May 82

[By Ramon Lamoneda, special correspondent]

[Text] Queretaro, Mexico, 30 May (AFP) -- The next government administration has announced a change in Mexico's oil policy as a part of its government program. It is based on the recognition of past errors and urges greater caution on exports and on the disclosure of proven reserves.

The plan, the purpose of which is to obtain greater benefits from Mexico's enormous oil wealth -- the largest in Latin America and the fourth largest in the world -- is the result of a meeting of experts with presidential candidate Miguel de la Madrid within his election campaign.

De la Madrid himself, who will assume the presidency in December as a result of the unquestionable majority obtained by the Institutional Revolutionary Party in the July elections, vigorously supported the proposed goals at the close of the meeting.

In one of the basic points of support for the plan, former Finance Secretary Hugo Margain criticized "our haste in confirming reserves, while other countries are more cautious."

He said that this attitude could be justified in the past, when Mexico needed to present itself to the financial world as a country with a future and as the owner of energy resources that are scarce or nonexistent in other countries.

However, the time has now come for Mexico to take advantage of the crisis caused by the drop in prices and to control its desire to portray itself to the world as having enormous reserves, a desire "that increases every day because of domestic political needs and due to the advantages of having economic strength abroad," Margain said.

Mexico is now producing 2.75 million barrels a day and has declared proven reserves of 72 billion barrels, plus another 250 billion barrels in potential reserves.

The former minister said that prudence advises that proven reserves not be increased for the moment, because this would invite greater international demands for energy, which Mexico should avoid.

He also declared himself in opposition to any increase in Mexico's oil exports, which now amount to 1.1 million barrels a day.

The purposes of the policy change are based on a conservative criterion: conservation of an exhaustible product, with the resultant demand for energy production based on renewable resources, such as, in Mexico's case, the generation of electric power via thermal, hydraulic or atomic power.

The reorientation plan emphasizes the need to rationalize the consumption of energy, in which Mexico has made little progress as compared to other countries of similar development.

At the Queretaro meeting, which was the last stage of the popular consultation phase of the election campaign waged by the official candidate and certain winner, it was estimated that the country cannot take a great leap forward in this rationalization unless it adopts a realistic and clear price policy.

In this respect, it is believed that if domestic prices were adjusted to international prices, resulting energy savings would amount to approximately 30 percent.

BANK RETURNS TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET

FL011839 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1745 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Acapulco, Guerrero, 1 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Finance and Public Credit Jesus Silva Herzog announced here today that the Bank of Mexico is returning to the foreign exchange market. He added that the decision is not designed to fix the type of currency exchange but to ensure orderly flexibility in the adjustment. It is estimated that the decline in par value will continue at the rate that the market itself has established in recent weeks.

BRIEFS

IRAQI AMBASSADOR -- Mexico City, 28 May (NOTIMEX) -- The first Iraqi ambassador to Mexico, 'Abd al-Wadud ash-Shaykhli, will leave our country after 5 years of service. He will be replaced by diplomat (Sakaris Qasim Kasync). [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0010 GMT 29 May 82 FL]

COSTA RICA

VIGILANCE INCREASED AT BORDER WITH NICARAGUA

PA010428 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0041 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] San Jose, 31 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The minister of public security has assigned 300 special policemen to Oscar Vidal Quiros, director general of the Civil Guard, to safeguard and maintain normalcy at the Nicaraguan border. Vidal Quiros recognizes the existence of armed groups at the border region where more than 20 armed men who were preparing counterrevolutionary acts against the Sandinist government were captured last week.

The official disclosed that the police under his command perform constant (?surveillance) of the activities of "irregular groups" who frequently "meet in homes of persons linked with Somozism." The official explained that the raids begun last week permitted the capture of several dozen "counterrevolutionaries" and have restored calm to the border townships. According to Vidal, checkpoints will be established along the 800-km border with Nicaragua in an effort to safeguard national sovereignty and ensure Costa Rica's neutrality.

CHANGES IN FOREIGN POLICY PRODUCED BY MONGE

PA291408 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1900 GMT 28 May 82

[By Wilfredo Chacon Serrano]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 28 May (ACAN-EFE) -- After 3 weeks of a new government in Costa Rica, changes in the nation's foreign policy have been made evident. All ambassadors to friendly nations were replaced by the Social Democrat, Luis Alberto Monge, the new president, while the tone of Costa Rican relations with the Arabs and Jews has been changed.

The country's principled attitude on the South Atlantic conflict has been maintained in international forums, but the previous goverment's harsh stance of condemnation of the U.S. Government for its support of the United Kingdom has not.

There have also been considerable changes in the commercial sphere, as 90 percent of Costa Rica's commercial representatives in the world have been replaced and as the government has announced that it will intensify export activity to take advantage of new markets, including Mexico, Venezuela and the United States, that have been opened within the general lines of the "Reagan plan for the Caribbean."

The country's relations with the IMF have also undergone a notable change. In contrast with former President Rodrigo Carazo's consistently critical attitude, the new administration has displayed a negotiable position, in an effort to reach an agreement that will permit the country to renegotiate its external debt and in order to open the doors of other world finance organizations.

Spokesmen of the current administration, meanwhile, have told ACAN-EFE that its stand on the Malvinas issue is consistent with Costa Rica's traditional foreign policy. "We have renounced nothing," Deputy Foreign Minister Ekhard Peters said. "We have reaffirmed the principles that have always been the foundation of our foreign policy, including our rejection of the use of armed force in settling conflicts and our support for the use of peaceful procedures in solving international controversies."

"The maintenance of TIAR [Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty] is essential to a small, unarmed state," the official added.

There are also differences between the previous and current administrations in their opinions as to the seat of the OAS. Carazo suggested that it be transferred from the United States to another country in view of the biased U.S. stand in favor of Great Britain, while Monge told EFE in Caracas that he does not support those who propose such a transfer, much less the removal of the United States from that continental organization, for the OAS must be preserved as it was originally conceived.

PRESIDENT MONGE MEETS WITH NICARAGUA'S ROBELO

PA291745 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 May 82

[Report by William Cespedes from the Costa Rican presidential house in San Jose]

[Text] Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Junta of the Government of Nicaragua, whose assets in Nicaragua were confiscated last week by the Sandinist government, met for approximately 40 minutes today with President Luis Alberto Monge. Robelo told the president that he and his family have now decided to establish residence in Costa Rica.

President Monge said that he is pleased with Robelo's decision and told him that Costa Rica is and will continue to be a country that provides asylum and that he can remain here as long as he wants. At the end of the meeting, Robelo said that his presence in this country will not endanger the security, peace or tranquillity of Costa Ricans or of their institutions.

He expressed regret at what is happening in Nicaragua right now. He said he had expected the Nicaraguan Government to confiscate his assets. As for the struggle to defend the principles of the Nicaraguan people, Robelo said that this struggle is taking place inside Nicaragua and that he fully identifies with his people. Robelo, business leader and former member of the Junta of the Government of Nicaragua, will not reside in Costa Rica, just as he said during his meeting with President Luis Alberto Monge.

EL SALVADOR

MILITARY FORCES LAUNCH LARGE-SCALE OFFENSIVE

NC020637 Paris AFP in English 0619 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Jun (AFP) -- Two Salvadoran Army Battalions, including one trained in the United States, have launched a large-scale offensive against guerrilla strongholds in the north of the country, an army spokesman said Tuesday. The two battalions were sent to northern El Salvador at the end of last week to reinforce the garrisons at Chalatenango and Sensuntepeque, the spokesman said. He added that they were already engaged in pushing the national liberation front guerrilllas "towards the Honduran frontier."

SUBVERSIVE GROUPS DERAIL TRAIN, AMBUSH PATROL

PA011533 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 31 May 82 p 2, 54

[Excerpt] Two terrorist actions were carried out on Saturday in the jurisdiction of Santo Domingo in San Vicente Department. In the first action, which was staged at 1000, a train was derailed; in the second action, a National Guard patrol was ambushed and several guardsmen were seriously wounded. The attack on freight train No 852 belonging to the Salvadoran National Railway, FENADESAL, involved the detonation of two high-powered bombs by subversives who waited for the train to pass km 178 of the railway in canton Palpetate, in Santo Domingo.

It was reported that the train was going from San Salvador to Cutuco, La Union Department, with a shipment of cement, fertilizer and medicine, which was scattered over the area when the freight cars overturned. The subversives fled. Authorities and FENADESAL workers were later sent to clear the line.

HAVANA REPORTS 'HEAVY FIGHTING' NEAR HONDURAS

PA012148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Heavy fighting is currently underway at the Honduran-Salvadoran border between Salvadoran guerrillas and joint forces of the Honduran and Salvadoran armies. According to the reports, between 500 and 1,000 troops who spent 14 months training in the United States were sent to Chalatenango, in northern El Salvador and dispatched from there to areas near the Honduran border.

A communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador has charged that the joint Salvadoran and Honduran forces are conducting an operation to annihilate the peasant population of Chalatenango. The communique adds that 24 hours after engaging the rebel forces, the army sustained 15 casualties in towns on the Honduran border. Other reports indicate that the rebel forces dynamited a train and attacked a National Guard patrol in San Vicente Department, east of San Salvador. Meanwhile, the Salvadoran station Radio Venceremos has reported that in El Roble canton, Cuscatlan Department, air force planes destroyed homes and crops with incendiary bombs. The station stressed that these aggressions mean that the fascist military is carrying out its previous threats to attack the population with weapons banned by international conventions.

PDC REPLACEMENT FOR MURDERED MAYOR ALSO KILLED

PA011518 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 31 May 82 p 2, 34

[Excerpts] Evangelina Garcia de Lopez, a 47-year-old councilwoman who was going to take over as mayor of San Francisco Chinamequita today in replacement of Teodoro Eleazar Cruz, who was killed by unidentified individuals, was murdered on Saturday by 11 well-armed men. She and a 10-year-old daughter were killed in her house. The 2 murders were committed at 1800, when 11 armed men broke into her home while Evangelina was involved in domestic chores. According to reports, three of the men were arrested by national guardsmen and found to be civil defense members; the other eight men were able to flee the town.

It was reported that the arrested suspects were part of the group that killed Eleazar Cruz, the previous mayor, on 13 May. It was reported that the National Guard captors were accompanied by three Christian Democratic Party [PDC] ministers and four PDC Constituent Assembly deputies. PDC spokesmen said that this latest killing increased to 12 the number of PDC activists and leaders who have been shot to death since 12 May.

PDC WARNS AGAINST UNDERMINING OF REFORMS

PA291626 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 May 82 p 29

[Paid advertisement by the Christian Democratic Party of El Salvador: "In Defense of the Reforms"]

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC], faithful to its commitment to promote the structural reforms needed by our people to increase production and to improve revenue distribution and social organization, in an effort to achieve social justice, considers it its unavoidable duty to alert the Salvadoran people to the abrogation of Decree No 114 issued by the revolutionary government junta, which has been ordered by the honorable Constituent Assembly through Decree No 3 of 26 April 1982.

Effects of the Abrogation and of Decree No 3 Generally

1. The expanded constitutional limits established by Decree No 144 to permit the enactment of such laws as the basic law of agrarian reform, Decree No 207 and the law of nationalization of banks and financial institutions have again been reduced to the level of the provisions of the 1962 Constitution.

2. The laws, regulations and government acts promulgated to implement the agrarian, banking and foreign trade reforms are valid from their date of origin to the date of Decree No 3 -- 26 April 1982.

3. As of 26 April 1982, all government acts must abide by the 1962 Constitution; therefore, all laws and regulations that may extend beyond the limits established by that Constitution become unconstitutional.

Problems That Have Arisen

A. As of 26 April 1982, over 100 farms that were seized and assigned to cooperatives are being expropriated by the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation, ISTA, just as over 30,000 small parcels taken over by beneficiaries of Decree No 207 are being expropriated by the National Financial Institution for Agricultural Lands, FINATA. Similar problems may arise with banks, savings and loans institutions, processing plants, sugar mills, etc.

Although the expropriations have been conducted in accordance with the law, the current legal situation is so confused that many former owners and people interested in undermining the reforms have already expressed their intention of filing legal challenges of unconstitutionality in order to recover the lands, to obtain excessive indemnities, to evict the cooperatives and beneficiaries of Decree No 207, etc. The first such challenge has already been filed in Nueva San Salvador.

B. From the day after the 28 March elections to the present, over 7,000 beneficiaries of Decree No 207 have been evicted by former owners, through force, intimidation and absolute disregard of the law and the authorities. It is unfortunate that many politicians and former owners have not been made aware of the frustration and hatred, violence and radicalization that these abuses provoke.

C. The economic and military aid granted by foreign governments to our government is based on our efforts to attain social justice through serious and profound reform, such as the agrarian, banking and foreign trade reforms, and the implementation of a democratic system that involves a daily increase in the respect shown and efficacy of individual and social rights.

The abrogation of Decree No 114, as a death blow to the reforms, constitutes a difficult impediment to continued aid for El Salvador from foreign governments and international organizations.

PEC Proposals

Since the various political parties, including those that voted directly for the abrogation of Decree No 114, have announced their commitment to respect the reforms and have also declared that Decree No 3 goes beyond what the constituent deputies had in mind, the Christian Democratic Party formally proposes:

That support be given to the peasants organizations' proposal that the laws and decrees that regulate the reforms be incorporated in Article 1 of Decree No 3 of the Constitution Assembly, thus permitting the executive branch to continue their implementation, primarily in the agrarian, banking and foreign trade sectors.

The legislative bloc of the Christian Democratic Party will agree to and will proceed to promote the draft decree presented for approval yesterday by the peasants organizations, believing that it will be approved without hesitation.

The present government must have enough constitutional authority to allow it to act in implementation and execution of the reforms. It shall be its responsibility to give these reforms the proper dynamism and depth.

Final Appeal

The Christian Democratic Party calls on all political parties to show responsibility in righting the errors made and in avoiding any repetition of hasty actions.

We appeal to all peasant, labor and union organizations to actively participate in rectifying the error incurred in the abrogation of Decree No 114.

We express solidarity with those organizations that have initiated movements designed to demand respect for the reforms and for the rights of those who have been evicted and dispossessed.

We urgently appeal to the ranking civilian and military authorities to prevent violent evictions by former owners, taking advantage of their better economic, social and political situations, to the detriment of the humble beneficiaries of Decree No 107.

It is also imperative that such abuses be ended and that respect for the law be enforced.

For social justice within a system of authentic democracy,

[Signed] The Christian Democratic Party

EDITORIAL SPECULATES ON U.S.-LATIN RELATIONS

PA292359 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 May 82 p 7

[Editorial: "U.S.-Latin American Relations Frail"]

[Text] When U.S. President Ronald Reagan declared his support for Great Britain in its conflict with Argentina, he inflicted a heavy blow on bonds of inter-American solidarity.

As is known, the undeclared war of Great Britain against Argentina is for the possession of the Malvinas Islands. Those islands belong to Argentina. Great Britain has never had any legal right to them. Their occupation by Great Britain was an act of piracy. And here is an interesting point of international law: Piracy may occupy a physical portion of the territory of a state, but such an act does not include the transfer of sovereignty. If sovereignty has not been ceded, then it has not been lost, and every moment or any moment is valid to reclaim the part of the usurped territory.

Argentina spent 149 years in negotiations to reclaim the Malvinas. Finally, on 2 April of this year, Argentina recovered the archipelago of the Malvinas, Georgias and Sandwich Islands by force. The British Government started an undeclared war, without any moral justification or any basis of international law.

In this irrational conflict, the United States declared its support for Great Britain. The Latin American reaction was immediate and it has since intensified. This is easily observed. The dignity of Latin America is at stake. This attitude has echoed in the White House. In admitting the damage, President Reagan claims "it is not irreparable."

In fact, the White House must carry out the task of restoring the inter-American unity that existed before the British-Argentine conflict. In the first place, the White House must explain its current position within TIAR -- Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty -- an important foundation of the inter-American international law. Then, it must define a policy which is designed to restore the trust of Latin America, which is not yet altogether lost.

GUATEMALA

ENVOY TO NICARAGUA RECALLED TO EXPLAIN INCIDENT

PA011558 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1915 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 31 May (ACAN-EFE) -- David Tercero Castro, the Guatemalan ambassador to Nicaragua, has been recalled by the Guatemalan Government junta to determine what took place on Saturday between him and Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a member of the Sandinist government junta, it has been learned from local sources. According to Nicaraguan reports, Ramirez Mercado turned his back on Tercero Castro when the latter wanted to deliver a donation from refugees who have taken asylum in the Guatemalan Embassy in Managua for the victims of the floods that have punished Central America recently.

Upon his arrival in Guatemala City, the ambassador said that he did not see whether the donated money was in fact burned, as reports from Managua indicate. He explained that relations with the Nicaraguan Government are good and that he came to Guatemala at the request of the military junta, which learned of the incident from the international press services.

"Relations with the Sandinist government are good. Before leaving Nicaragua, I met with members of the government and everything was normal. The incident was simply distorted," Tercero Castro said. He said he met with the military junta members this morning to brief them on what really happened in Nicaragua, according to an official source.

RIOS MONTT VIEWS ON PEASANT KILLINGS, COMMUNISM

PA301554 Paris AFP in Spanish 1346 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Madrid, 30 May (AFP) -- "The only solution (for Guatemala) is for God to have mercy on us," Efrain Rios Montt, president of the Guatemalan military junta, said in an interview published today by the Madrid newspaper CABIO 16. "It is a war, it is a permanent war," he said in regard to the army's struggle against the leftist guerrillas who want to overthrow the Guatemalan Government. "There was a certain reason for subversion to exist, given the manner in which the country was being managed," the Guatemalan leader conceded, in a reference to the "enormous corruption" that, it has been reported, led the coupists to take power last March.

"I am not interested in selling an image; I recognize that the subversion is correct in this," added the "No 1" of this Central American country. Rios Montt added: "However, the banner of communism now has no reason to exist, for if communism was against corruption, we have now eliminated that corruption."

He also conceded that violations of human rights are committed by the army in the field, "as in every other place of the world." Trying to explain the killing of peasants, he said: "Naturally, if a subversive operation exists in which the Indians are involved with the guerrillas, the Indians are also going to die. However, the army's philosophy is not to kill the Indians, but to win them back, to help them."

OFFICIAL UNCERTAIN ON EFFECT OF AMNESTY DECREE

PA012310 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Manuel de Jesus Giron Sanchez, secretary general of the government military junta, said yesterday that at this time there is no information on how much money will be given for weapons or war materiel turned in by those who accept amnesty. He said that for the time being it can only be guaranteed that those who lay down their weapons will not be harmed and will receive some monetary support.

Giron Sanchez added that at the moment he could not say how much could be achieved during the 30 days covered by the amnesty decree. However, he said that he believes that the amnesty will be well received by those who in one way or another were misled or forced to participate in subversion because of their difficult economic situation.

Giron Sanchez said that the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) rejection of the amnesty must be respected. However, he said that there are other such organizations in the country and that since these organizations have differing viewpoints, some members could very well accept the amnesty.

REBEL ACTIONS, EGP STATEMENT REJECT AMNESTY

PA012303 Guatemala City Trecevision in Spanish 0130 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Four high-voltage towers that supplied electricity to the capital and surrounding areas were dynamited last night by an unidentified clandestine group. The areas most affected by this attack were southern Guatemala City, San Miguel Petapa, Villa Nueva, Villa Canales and Amatitlan. The attacks, that began at 2300 and lasted 30 minutes, are believed to manifest the clandestine organizations' rejection of the amnesty which the military junta offered to those who lay down their weapons. This amnesty will go into effect at 0000 1 June and will be valid through 30 June.

While the high-voltage towers were being destroyed, several propaganda bombs exploded in this city but caused no damage. Further, it was learned that the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) distributed a statement to the media rejecting the amnesty which it considers a farce.

Four dynamite charges were found and deactivated this afternoon. The bombs had been placed on high-voltage towers in Amatitlan. The discovery came after a police search that lasted several hours. Last night the terrorist destroyed two other towers in this same area. Demolitions experts said tonight that the rain had spoiled the terrorist plans when the dynamite, intended to blow up the towers, got wet.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SEEK REVISION OF AMNESTY

PA301206 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Leaders of the Guatemalan Christian Democrats [DCG], represented by DCG Secretary General Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, have issued a press release in which they say that the amnesty decree should be rewritten and that the government should clearly define its position, to demonstrate that the decree is not intended to cover up the involvement of officials from the previous administration in acts of repression against civilians who were not engaged in violence.

In their communique, the Christian Democrats say that neither they nor the citizenry would accept the issuance of an amnesty decree that favors those who, in an abuse of power and solely by virtue of their status as members of security forces, kidnapped, murdered or threatened innocent citizens who were not involved in subversive activities of any kind, or who were only engaged in legal opposition political activities.

We say this because we realize that if amnesty is granted to persons who seek to change the system and to take power by force of arms, it should also favor those who, in fulfilling their duties within the system, participated in armed actions. However, this should not be used as a pretext to protect those who are responsible for criminal actions, Vinicio Cerezo said.

The DCG leader added that the government junta should realize that the citizenry needs security and confidence.

He said that there was some recovery of confidence after the coup, but that the great confusion generated by the amnesty decree could cause a loss of all of that confidence, which is serving as a basis for the process of democratic recovery that Guatemalans should support. For the good of Guatemala's democratic future and for peace, the junta should clarify its position or amend the decree, Vinicio Cerezo emphasized.

NICARAGUA

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY BAND DISPERSED IN OMETEPE

PA292350 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 22 May 82 pp 1, 11

[By Julio Jacamo Ledesma]

[Capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Excerpts] Rivas -- The watchwords THEY SHALL NOT PASS became a fact on Ometepe Island, when security agents of the Sandinist popular revolution discovered and broke up a band of Somozist criminals who intended to disrupt the normal activities of the island's authorities. The criminals had been collecting arms and contacting foreign counterrevolutionary organizations, in a plot to overthrow the island's authorities and kill the revolutionary leaders.

Dr Guillermo Nicolas Rivas, the deputy prosecutor of Rivas, filed charges requesting warrants for the arrest of the suspects and any other persons whose involvement may be revealed by the current investigation. The recently neutralized band on Ometepe Island is part of the "15 September Legion" and maintained contact with the counterrevolutionary bands in Costa Rica, the northern border and in Honduras.

Marcos Estrada was the chief of the 15 September Legion.

Roger, second in command [as published]. Jose Agustin Guzman Murillo, 48, married, a farmer of Alta Gracia, Ometepe, was responsible for raising funds, recruiting members, and collecting weapons.

Abel Mairena Hernandez, 42, married, a farmer from Balgue, provided funds and weapons for the counterrevolution. Fausto Andres Lopez Loria, 58, married, a farmer from Esquipulas, was chief of the organization's cell in Ometepe.

Alfonso Cruz Munoz, 55, single, from Moyogalpa, was responsible for communications between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Armando Morales Gonzalez, 37, single, from Las Pilas, Ometepe Island, was in charge of providing transportation on the island for Marcos Estrada and Roger.

Gregorio Tijerino Cruz, 58, a farmer from La Paloma, a member of the 15 September Legion was in charge of collecting weapons. He also carried a 38-caliber revolver and a 22-caliber rifle.

The counterrevolutionary activities of these elements, enemies of their own people, constitute violations of the law on maintenance of order and public security.

Further Clashes

PA010418 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] The slogans "Free fatherland or death" and "The counterrevolutionaries shall not pass," were again put in practice when Battalion 80-11 of Granada inflicted three casualties on a fearsome counterrevolutionary gang in Tunawalan, Jinotega Department.

Last Thursday, a patrol from Battalion 80-11 made up of 10 companeros was ambushed by this counterrevolutionary gang, the only one operating in Tunawalan, which is between Par Par and San Andres de Bocay. The bandits known as (Pantera) and (El Chino) were in charge of the group, which belong to (El Tigrillo's) gang.

Companero (Felipe Hernandez Zeledon), a member of a unit which is fighting against the Somozist gangs, reported that the clash lasted approximately 30 minutes and that the enemy had three casualties. (Hernandez), who had to be taken to Ayapal to have a piece of shrapnel removed from his arm, said the counterrevolutionaries, 15 in all, had FAL, Garand, M-1 and M-16 rifles and 32-cal rifles.

This same gang recently killed Companero (Manuel Duarte) in Par Par, four companeros named Benavides who were cattle buyers, and also a peddler in Wina, from whom they took 2,000 cordobas. These criminals, who are terrorizing the peasants and stealing their cattle, operate in (Chilande), Los Cerrones, Aguascalientes, (Cerro Gacho), (Cantacaguas), Tunawalan, Par Par and Wina.

BORGE TALKS ON OAS, TIAR, FALKLANDS, BORDER ISSUES

PA291906 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 May 82 p 5

[Text] Commander of the revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, vice president of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPAL, will call for an "urgent meeting" of this Latin American organization to discuss the "intolerable British attack on Argentina."

Commander Borge said: "The Malvinas are like the turning of a page. This is a new phase, because what has been called the inter-American system is at stake. It is intolerable to see a transcontinental power, a European power, committing an attack on a Latin American country."

Referring to organizations that were created with the support of Latin American governments, organizations like the OAS and the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, Commander Borge said: "These organizations have been in a perpetual crisis, but in this phase the crisis has grown worse."

Commander Borge added: "If the OAS does not become an institution representing the American countries, it would be better to organize something else. If it continues to be a tool of U.S. policies, the Latin American countries must think carefully about whether that organization should continue to exist."

"I am not saying that Nicaragua will withdraw from the OAS, but that the present situation must be carefully examined by the Latin American countries." He added: "Should another organization be formed, we would accept not only the participation of the United States but that of Cuba as well."

He recalled: "Cuba is also a Latin American country."

In regard to TIAR and the Malvinas, Borge said: "This organization was created to defend the Latin American countries in case of an attack from a transcontinental power; the attack has now taken place with the British aggression against Argentina and TIAR is not functioning."

Borge, FSLN National Directorate member, has said that the British attack on Argentina is an attack on Latin America as a whole. Commenting on the U.S. policy on the Anglo-Argentine war, Borge recalled that Washington has sided with England's colonialist aggression, openly supporting it.

Borge noted that in view of the lack of response by these institutions, organizations that exist in Latin America should be used to reject England's colonialist aggression. One of these organizations is COPPAL, he said.

Our reporter asked Borge how many men the Nicaraguan Government would send to Argentina if that country were to make such a request. Borge said: "I am sure that all Nicaraguans would like to go. We would be overwhelmed by volunteers, including Sandinist Peoples Army soldiers, militiamen, reservists and policemen."

Commander Borge said that as yet there has been no such request. He noted that the Argentine Government has sought solidarity. Borge said that Nicaragua's call for a COPPPAL meeting is not because of any request from Argentina, but principles we uphold.

Commander Borge said that Nicaragua will call for the return of the helicopter taken from Chinandega to Honduras yesterday and for the extradition of the people who seized it. "We will base this call on international agreements," he said.

As for the decision of the Costa Rican security council to ask the "traitor" [Eden Pastora] to leave the country, the Sandinist leader called it "a wise measure, which we will give great consideration in our relations.

Regarding reports of a request that the OAS guard the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border using soldiers from other countries, Commander Borge said that Nicaragua would not accept such a measure.

Borge noted that our government agrees with the idea of a joint border watch with Honduras and Costa Rica. "We have the experience of the Dominican Republic as a lesson," he noted.

In a reference to the meeting between the Honduran and Nicaraguan chiefs of staff, Commander Borge said that it was very positive and that there would be other preliminary meetings prior to the meeting between the two countries' top military leaders.

The Government of Nicaragua, he said, expects compliance with the Guasaule agreement. Borge noted that that agreement calls for a meeting at the highest level in Managua.

Finally, the Sandinist leader said he was happy, as a Nicaraguan, with the victory of Alexis Arguello [a boxer] over Ganigan. Borge said that this victory is a personal achievement for Alexis but also brings glory to Nicaragua. Commander Borge congratulated Arguello in a telephone call.

Addresses Peace Conference

PA012247 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The Second Congress of the Latin American and Caribbean Peace Conference adjourned yesterday. Its delegates acclaimed Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez when he delivered the closing address of the event. Among the 10 most important motions adopted by the 200 delegates who attended the 5-day meeting is one expressing solidarity with Nicaragua, and another supporting the Central American peoples' struggle.

On behalf of the conference, Companera (Dora Arce) delivered a first symbolic contribution to aid our people who have been affected by the current natural disaster. She announced that when the delegates return to their countries, they will mount campaigns to collect funds and relief supplies for the victims. Minister Reynaldo Antonio Tefel received the symbolic donation for the National Disaster Committee.

Commander Borge Martinez noted that despite the earthquake, storms and other natural disasters, there is no worse tragedy for a people than imperialist oppression which for many years carried with it the infernal exploitation of people by people, misery, ignorance and the suffering of millions of human beings affected permanently by that system's unjust nature.

[Begin Borge recording] The Somozist state that we destroyed was an instrument of repression against the entire people. The relationship that existed between the Somozist state and the church was governed by that specific reality. Somoza encouraged the ecclesiastical hierarchy to defend the interests of the exploiting classes in Nicaragua.

It was logical, then, that the state oppressor of the Christian people's interests should try to turn religion into an instrument of spiritual repression to act as a massive dose of opium against the people. That alone explains why our Christian people were driven to the catacombs, why our Christian people, in rebellion against those who distorted religion, began to understand religion as an instrument of liberation and a commitment to justice. That is why Nicaraguan Christians went underground; that is why Nicaraguan Christians picked up the rifles of freedom; that is why the Christian people, without abandoning their Christian faith, became Sandinist.

If during Somozism the relationship between the state and the church was conditioned by the interests of the exploiters and of repression, it is natural and historically logical that the relationship between the revolutionary state and the church should now be based on the defense of the interests of those who were exploited and repressed. The revolution and the revolutionary state defend the interest of the exploited and the oppressed. The revolution was made to liberate the people so that everybody could be free to believe or not believe, according to his or her own conscience. [end recording]

SOVIET INTELLECTUALS GROUP BEGINS VISIT

PA011211 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] This afternoon, in a demonstration of deep appreciation and friendship toward the Sandinist revolution, a delegation of 15 Soviet scientists, artists and writers placed a floral wreath at the tomb of Carlos Fonseca, the revolution's commander in chief.

A member of the group said that this committee, made up of intellectuals from all of the Soviet republics, arrived in Managua this morning to sign a cooperation agreement between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Nicaraguan Association of Friendship with Socialist Countries. The delegation is led by (Valeriy Chernyev), who is deputy chief of the Soviet friendship organization's Latin American countries department, and by (Stepan Molodtsov), deputy chief of the group and a lecturer at a USSR social science institute.

Tomorrow the visitors will begin a full working program, which will include conferences with various workers and intellectuals organizations, such as the Nicaraguan Labor Coordination Organization, the Federation of Health Workers and the Planning Ministry.

While placing the wreath on Carlos Fonseca's tomb, the spokesman for the group said: We are placing this wreath in honor of your dead combatants, your country's children and the founder of your vanguard.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH CYPRUS

PA301523 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] The establishment of ambassadorial-level diplomatic relations between Nicaragua and Cyprus was simultaneously announced yesterday in Managua and Nicosia. The joint communique was signed by Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, and Konstandinos Mousioutas, Cypriot ambassador to the United Nations.

PAPER INTERVIEWS COMMANDER BAYARDO ARCE

PA261347 Managua PATRIA LIBRE in Spanish May 82 pp 34-41

["Exclusive" interview given by Nicaraguan Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano by Freddy Balzan, at Arce's office in "El Chipote," Managua; date not given; underlined passages as published]

[Text] The Aggressive U.S. Plans Are Still in Effect

[Question] Could you assess the progress of the Sandinist peoples revolution?

[Answer] We believe that the Sandinist peoples revolution must be viewed from two angles: external and internal.

I would say that the latest external events have allowed us to demonstrate the consolidation and qualitative development that the Sandinist peoples revolution has achieved. Our people's expressions of support and participation have changed since 1979 or 1980. After 2 years of the revolution, one might believe that the people had become somewhat disenchanted or perhaps fearful, in view of the risks of aggression. Recently, however, we have been able to see the Nicaraguan people answer to all of these difficulties: They have attained higher levels of awareness and organization and their devotion to work and Sandinist spirit are greater every day. In this respect, we can be very optimistic about the revolution, internally.

We can also point out that even though over these last few weeks we have achieved some political victories over the aggressive designs, preventing the scheduled implementation of the plans for aggression prepared by U.S. strategists, this does not mean that the struggle has been won or that we can view the future with optimism. Many plans of aggression against the revolution are still underway and others are being drafted. As a result of this hostile policy, our economic difficulties are greater now, demanding greater restrictions on and sacrifices from our people in carrying our revolutionary project forward. Thus, we can be optimistic in viewing the internal situation, but this optimism cannot be maintained if we look at the external situation, unless the Reagan administration seriously commits itself, before the international community, to giving up its plans of destabilization and aggression against our revolution.

We Do Not Want To Humiliate U.S. Policy

[Question] Most UN Security Council member countries recently voted for a resolution that is favorable to Nicaragua, but it was not passed because the United States vetoed it. This confirmed the suspicion that the United States supports the use of force against Nicaragua in an attempt to crush the revolutionary process. The United States even refuses to comply with the principle contained in the UN Charter that specifies that UN members must not use force against countries such as Nicaragua. What are your comments on this subject?

[Answer] Following this, we only have one card left to play. We must try to get the United States to commit itself to the convocation of a UN General Assembly meeting, where it would not be able to use its veto, for an analysis of the problem. However, we do not want to humiliate U.S. policy or to place it in a position where the entire world would have to oppose it. This is not our intention; we only wish to achieve practical solutions that would guarantee peace for our people.

Therefore, we have decided to continue to emphasize the need for direct negotiations with the United States in a third country. We have chosen Mexico because it is a country that enjoys international respect and prestige and because it has cordial relations with both the United States and Nicaragua. We have already sent two notes insisting on the need to begin such negotiations in Mexico.

It is widely known that they have presented 8 subjects that they would like to discuss with us and that we have presented 13, but the United States has not given a definite answer that would enable the negotiation process to begin. This worries us, because they have also refused to ratify the Security Council resolution that would have entailed a U.S. commitment and would have given us guarantees.

In addition, hostile acts against Nicaragua have been committed since the Security Council meeting. Up to three or four warships have been prowling near our coast. Electronic surveillance flights over our country have increased and they have categorically refused to start negotiations; that is why the threats against our revolution still exist.

A Decolonization Process Should Be Started

[Question] Nicaragua obviously won a great political victory at the Security Council, However, almost the very next day, this issue was obscured by the Malvinas problem. Disregarding the development of events in the Malvinas, I would like to ask you the following questions: Do you think there is any difference between Argentina's sovereign decision to recover a part of its territory and a decision that might be made by Puerto Rico, Guatanamo, the Virgin Islands, Panama ... with regard to the neocolonialist and interfering attitudes of the United States in the policies of our America?

[Answer] I believe that there may be a similarity of circumstances in cases like Guantanamo and Panama, because they involve colonial enclaves held by colonialist powers in sovereign countries. This was the case in Argentina. Argentina's sovereignty has been partly hampered by a colonial occupation. I would say that there is a difference in the case of Puerto Rico, because the entire country is occupied. This poses for the Puerto Rican people a different kind of struggle, the struggle of an entire people to achieve liberation and independence. In this case, the problem of recovering sovereignty is not so immediate; it is necessary to begin by recovering absolute independence. The Argentine issue was different. In any case, Nicaragua's position regarding Guantanamo, Panama, etc., is clearly defined. We belong to the Movement of Nonaligned Countries and we are opposed to all forms of colonialism and neocolonialism. We are opposed to all attacks on the sovereignty and self-determination of peoples. In the respective forums, we have expressed our firm and clear position: that it is necessary to comply with the UN mandate to begin a decolonization process.

Why the Pastora Ploy?

[Question] International correspondents have noted that the infamous strategists based in Washington decided to carry out the maneuver with Pastora at a time when the revolutionary conscience of the Nicaraguan people is at its peak and world attention is on the Malvinas problem. What could have led imperialism to play this card at this time?

[Answer] Pastora's very appearance in Costa Rica confirms my previous statement to the effect that the threats to our revolution are latent. The imperialists began to organize an entire scheme of aggression against our revolution, with the situation in El Salvador serving as the main axis. In other words, they were very fearful that the Salvadoran electoral plan, which was the culmination of their entire policy of extermination accompanied by some pseudo-reforms in El Salvador, would fall apart before the date of elections and that this defeat of their policy in El Salvador would leave them unable to continue opposing the changes that are needed in that country. Therefore, the United States began to develop a scheme of aggression that pointed to Nicaragua as the main culprit to be blamed for the U.S. failure to eliminate the Salvadoran revolutionary movement. The United States implemented a number of actions that ranged from the formation of the so-called "Central American Democratic Community" to provocation in our country by U.S. agents located in Honduran territory who are supporting the counterrevolutionary activities of the Somozist groups.

Meanwhile, it began an international activity -- which was private, of course, but of which we were informed by our friends in the United States and in America -- to create a situation of "conflict" that would permit it to invoke the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, against Nicaragua. Our people and the revolutionary government began to combat this scheme,first of all by means of the state of emergency, which activated our country's defensive capacity. It was a very important dissuasive factor. To this must be added our international activity, because we immediately began to bring up the subject at the Security Council, with the results that we have mentioned. This limited the opportunities the United States had to act against our country. Moreover, other objective factors emerged; the very results of the Salvadoran electoral farce -- because although the number of votes was inflated, it was not possible to change the real relationship existing among the groups that participated in the elections, and this gave the rightwing the opportunity to return to power and eliminate the main allies of U.S. policy, the Christian Democrats. The Malvinas incident occurred and, independently of any analysis that one might make of the motivations that led to the events, the fact is that Argentina has sovereign rights over the islands and that at a given moment there has been a confrontation between what the United States considered to be its two main allies; the British, in the North Atlantic, and the Argentines, in Latin America.

To all this must be added the coup that took place in Guatemala. Whatever U.S. involvement there may have been or may be in this matter, it has not facilitated or achieved a consolidation of the new government's positions. Thus a situation is produced in which the United States cannot count on Guatemala; the situation in El Salvador does not present any basis for continuing to develop U.S. policies; the democratic community has become a senseless pronouncement; the problems of the Malvinas emerge; our initiative isolates the United States internationally in its aggressive policy; and moreover, our people have demonstrated great unity in defense of the fatherland. The only way to keep open a possibility of an aggressive maneuver was to take a breather by playing a card which, by the way, would perhaps have been more disastrous at another time. However, the United States was forced to play it at this time because it was left without a single means of provoking us and without any means of continuing to harass us. Perhaps in a different situation, in which the imperialists were not being so aggressive toward us, Pastora's traitorous maneuver would have created more confusion; but the United States was desperate, because it had no means of continuing its harassment against Nicaragua. Indeed, it had only the counterrevolutionary Somozist groups that operate from Honduras. We cannot confront these groups in such a way as to fall into a trap, which is what the United States has always sought; a military confrontation between the two nations as a result of the activities of these groups. The Pastora maneuver served to help it revitalize its policies against Central America. That is the reason why it was launched just now, perhaps at the worst moment for the achievement of Pastora's purpose of generating confusion, because our people are more aware and more combat ready; therefore, the maneuver had no effect internally. However, an effort is being made abroad to undermine Nicaragua's international support. That is why they have played this card, having an alleged Sandinist repeat all the charges that the imperialists have been making against us. They seek by this means, I repeat, to undermine the revolution's international support. This effort, by the way, will not be successful either.

The Maneuver of the "Directorate" or of the "Junta" Can Be Explained

[Question] Commander, what is your opinion of the new government "junta" or "supreme directorate" being planned by the counterrevolutionary sectors abroad?

[Answer] I can't exactly tell you the names of all of the people who might be participating in such a maneuver.

The truth is that it can be explained and we would not be surprised if imperialism is behind it because ever since the victory of the revolution imperialism has tried to isolate us, using the alleged charge that we are heading toward an "absolute alignment with the Soviet Union," so that we can serve as a base for an alleged "Soviet expansionism." Imperialism has also charged that we had a plan to create what they call a "totalitarian" regime in Nicaragua. That charge has not garnered support from international political forces, despite the fact that some of those forces might have disagreements with us or slight differences of opinion on some issues. Everyone agrees that it cannot be said that there is a totalitarian regime in Nicaragua, since public freedoms are guaranteed, political pluralism exists, there are more parties than in the past, the private sector continues to be the strongest sector, etc. Neither can it be said that our policy is aligned with the Soviet Union. Our independence in the area of foreign policy has been repeatedly demonstrated in practice. That kind of accusation has been unable to affect our international relations or to effectively compare us with the Somozist and oligarchic groups that left the country with the triumph of the revolution, because they did not have any power and because the entire world knows that they were removed from power because of their unjust regime. Since the victory of the revolution, imperialism has been constantly looking for individuals from sectors that, in principle, could have been in the revolution at the beginning, to support its false accusations against us. It would not be surprising if people from the private sector or from the political parties who remained in the country after the victory suddenly appear together and present themselves as an "alternative" making the same accusations, not in an effort to deceive our people -- for it would be very difficult to deceive our people with any maneuver -- but in order to divide the international forces that support the revolution. We know that the United States has been working on this maneuver and we would not be surprised if some day an "alternative" of this kind, in which Pastora will obviously be involved, is presented under who knows what name.

U.S. Policy Does Not Respond to Principles

[Question] In the specific case of El Salvador, the United States maintained an attitude at the outset that agreed that the Christian Democratic positions and supported Duarte's candidacy. After the results of the electoral farce, it has identified with D'Aubuisson, who is one of the ultraconservative representatives and an enemy of the reforms sponsored by the United States in that country. How do you evaluate the U.S. policy toward El Salvador after the election results?

[Answer] U.S. policy does not respond to principles and is not based on a real interest in helping our peoples find their own path. Instead, it is directed at making our countries pawns, or parts of an instrument that they can handle. This explains the apparent inconsistency in U.S. policy, which has been questioned so often. It is inconsistent in terms of principles, in developing its policy in the area, but not in terms of its objectives. Right now there are eight amendments in the U.S. Congress that deal with the Salvadoran problem, which has yet to be discussed. The U.S. public opposes the current level of commitment in El Salvador. At the international level, U.S. policy has found no support on the El Salvador issue. On the contrary, all of the world's countries are calling for a negotiated political solution. Within this framework, it would have been best for U.S. interests had the Christian Democrats won the elections.

The convocation of elections in a situation of war was obviously not going to facilitate the participation of all of the people. The people who participated most effectively were the rightwing, who are more ideological and many of whom are organized in paramilitary organizations, such as ORDEN [Nationalist Democratic Organization] and who went to vote with weapons in hand. On the other hand, the Christian Democratic sectors were forced to abstain from voting because of the war and the insecurity in the country. All of this led to the rightwing's victory.

So, what happens to the United States? If it continues to insist that Christian Democrats lead the government, it will have to sponsor a coup d'etat, and its campaign about elections and democratic systems would then collapse. The only thing it can do now is to try to obtain commitments from the rightwing, which the rightwing is certainly not going to give. This reminds me of what I said in April 1980, when I analyzed U.S. policy and said that the United States spoke of a "moderate rightwing," a political concept that is completely in error. The United States seems to be trying to develop a "moderate rightwing." It has no alternative but to continue to argue that elections are a useful path. We know that the struggle for positions is both incredible and bloody. They are people without scruples. They are not responsible politicians, but people who see in the state an opportunity to obtain personal gain -- thus everyone is fighting to seize positions that will benefit them. It will be very difficult for the U.S. plans to function, based on that government in El Salvador. A crisis will be reached sooner rather than later.

Peoples of the World Against Reagan's Apocalyptic Policy

[Question] Obviously, an inconsistent policy -- such as the United States is pursuing -- may lead the region and the world toward holocaust. What is your view of the growing demonstrations by the U.S. and European peoples -- demonstrations even larger than those during the Vietnam war?

[Answer] This is very important to us, and part of our diplomatic and political effort is directed toward the U.S. people and public opinion because we know that they can play an almost decisive role in stopping the Reagan administration's aggressive and apocalyptic policies. We feel strongly supported and encouraged by the U.S. people's response to our appeal. Actually, this appeal was not ours alone; there has been widespread international concern over the philosophy reflected in this administration's assessments and views of the international situation since it assumed power. We have become aware of this concern through our contacts with friendly governments. Those countries have expressed fear that this administration may increase world tension by trying to create an East-West confrontation and then taking the position that you are either for or against the United States in this confrontation. This has raised the possibility that several governments will have to engage in costly struggles against the U.S. position and has led many people in the world to realize that they must play an important role. As a result, we have seen emerge the largest peace movement in Europe's history. We see repeated European demonstrations by as many as 500,000 people who don't want their governments to yield to U.S. pressure which might create tension with the socialist community or among their own countries and lead to a holocaust.

To the countries, governments and political forces which, like ours, hold peace as their primary objective, it is encouraging to see that the U.S. people are aware of the dangers to mankind posed by the type of government their President and his administration have established.

The November Elections Will Be a Thermometer

[Question] At this moment, the United States is facing a rather serious economic crisis which has affected the low income sectors, the working masses, etc. Do you believe these mobilizations by the people and the serious economic crisis at the very heart of the world's leading capitalist nation may lead to a change in its warlike, interventionist and meddlesome policy in our America?

[Answer] It seems they will. One must bear in mind that regardless of how irresponsible a government may be it can't act against the will of its people. Besides, the U.S. people are advocates of peace and have a practical mind. They can see clearly the growing unemployment and the neglect of social prgrams, which has gone so far as cuts in budget funds for child and old-age welfare programs. All this is happening because the administration is engaged in a mad arms race and devoting all funds to the manufacture of weapons.

Therefore, the pressure which is building up in the United States may -- when combined with efforts elsewhere in the world -- show that if there is really no danger of war and if the entire world is committed to peace, the Reagan administration's continuing involvement in a mad arms race is senseless. I do think it is going to produce an effect, because it will strengthen the hand of congressmen in their efforts to restrain the administration. I believe that the Congressional elections in November will become a referendum on this, because they will reflect a change in attitude by the U.S. people about the people they elect to watch over their interests.

The Malvinas and Central America

[Question] What do you think the U.S. attitude toward Central America will be once the Malvinas Islands problem is over?

[Answer] I think that the United States would like to return to Central America once the serious situation in the Malvinas is over, but they will not be able to do so with the strength that they had before. I think that the Malvinas outcome will involve negotiations, which is what happens these days when there are international conflicts. England will have to recognize Argentina's sovereignty over those islands.

I don't think that the outcome will be a world war, with some countries supporting Argentina and others supporting England. I don't think the world's nonsense has reached that extreme. Obviously, the British had to do something, because Thatcher would have fallen otherwise. However, the fact that I say this does not mean that we support attacks; on the contrary, we strongly reject them. Now Thatcher can negotiate and can do a lot of other things. At least she will be able to say that she fought and that she reacted to the humiliation inflicted by Argentina. I don't think she can embark on a war, because only the United States supports her. The international public is against her and there are, in fact, very serious forces in England itself that are against the Thatcher government and that disagree with the way the problem has been handled.

Workers Want Socialism

[Question] My last question deals with the 1 May slogan: "We defend the revolution for the construction of socialism." This slogan has provoked much expectation both inside and outside of Nicaragua. What do you think about the workers' aspirations?

[Answer] We must realize that this is a watchword of our working class. This is important, because this watchword is not a line or a slogan espoused by the revolutionary government or by the Sandinist front in this phase. In all of the world's countries, the workers want socialism, a more just society where they can be the principal actors. They realize that the Sandinist people's revolution has given them the opportunity to participate in the construction of their own future so far and to benefit from a more just distribution of the country's wealth. But it is obvious that the present status of the revolution does not satisfy our workers' deepest aspirations. Their position is that their aspirations, their interests, will be solved with the construction of socialism in Nicaragua. Therefore, they are telling us; we defend it only as long as it is a road that will allow us to build socialism. It is obvious that we respect the workers' concepts and that we go by what the workers feel. We don't impose a policy on them. In the framework of the political pluralism that exists in our country, which permits the enemies of socialism and of communism to wage open campaigns against those systems, it is only fair that the workers, who have a certain goal, also be permitted to conduct their campaigns. This is real pluralism. This is the implementation of pluralism. Let those who are against socialism say so, but also let those who are for it express this freely. We are committed, both domestically and internationally, to maintaining a certain kind of government for as long as the national reconstruction effort goes forward, and we are going to abide by that commitment. It is for this reason precisely that we are not going to prevent anyone from campaigning in favor of what he believes in."

Arce Reports Europe Visit

PA311525 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Bayardo Arce, commander of the revolution, has announced that the FSLN has invited the Socialist International to visit Nicaraguan on the occasion of the third anniversary of the revolution's triumph. Bayardo Arce, FSLN Political Committee coordinator, arrived at 0800 yesterday from Havana and Europe. Arce said that by visiting Nicaragua, the Socialist International leaders will be able to personally assess the country's current situation, thus countering the misinformation campaign promoted by Nicaraguan reactionaries abroad.

Commander Arce was welcomed at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport by Carlos Nunez and Luis Carrion, commanders of the revolution, and by Companero Rene Nunez, FSLN National Directorate Secretary.

Arce stressed the support and solidarity provided by the Socialist International member-parties to the Nicaraguan revolution. He indicated that Nicaragua has proposed the convocation of a conference on peace, security and cooperation in Central America and the Caribbean, which could be held in Nicaragua, so that the European parties can learn more about the region's situation of conflict and can contribute to the efforts of various governments and political forces to achieve peace in the region.

BREZHNEV SENDS CONDOLENCES TO JUNTA ON FLOODS

PA301519 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 May 82

[Message sent by Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU secretary general and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, to Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, dated 28 May -- read by announcer]

[Text] Companero Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of the Republic of Nicaragua, Managua.

I express my sincere condolences in view of the serious flood disaster that has occurred in the Republic of Nicaragua and that has claimed victims and caused heavy damage. Please express my deep condolences to the affected families.

[Signed] Leonid Brezhnev, Kremlin, Moscow, 28 May 1982.

BRIEFS

NEW JUSTICE MINISTER -- On 27 May, the Gazette, the country's official paper, published the appointment of the new justice minister, replacing Ernesto Castillo Martinez, who is now heading the National Council for Higher Education. The new justice minister is Carlos Arguello Gomez, who was previously the deputy justice minister. [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 May 82 PA]

SUGAR PRODUCTION -- Nicaragua had one of the largest sugar cane harvests in its history this year. In a news conference yesterday, (Eduardo Solis) of the sugar department at the Agro-Export Directorate of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform [MIDINRA] said that the country produced 4,939,000 quintals of sugar during the 1981-82 agricultural cycle. The MIDINRA goal, 5,118,000 quintals, was not met because of heavy rains that affected the harvest. (Solis) said that despite this fact, we produced 678,000 more quintals than in the previous period. [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 May 82 PA]

NONALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU SESSIONS CONTINUE

Presiding Board Named

FL011430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] The Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau meeting at the staff level began yesterday at the Palace of Conventions under the presidency of Cuban Ambassador to the UN Raul Roa. The meeting dealt with the recommendations for the composition of the presiding board for the ministerial meeting slated for tomorrow.

Cuba will preside over the board. At the vice presidencies, Yugoslavia will represent Europe, Guyana will represent Latin America and the Caribbean, the Congo will represent Africa, and the PLO will represent the Middle East. Cyprus was designated as recording secretary for the event.

Zambia will preside over the political committee and Panama will be at the vice presidency. The economic committee will be presided over by India and Madagascar will be at the vice presidency.

Some 100 delegations have stated their interest in attending this Nonaligned Movement's meeting including the entire membership, observers and invited guests. As of yesterday 93 delegations had arrived in Cuba, among them 39 ministers, although 45 ministers are expected to attend tomorrow's meeting.

Topics of Discussions

PA011707 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1211 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Havana, 1 Jun (EFE) -- The Nonaligned Movement, which includes 94 countries, has already drafted the final declaration for its meeting here, in which the Malvinas conflict and the war between Iran and Iraq are prominent topics.

Officially, the nonaligned coordinating office ministers meeting will begin tomorrow, Wednesday, but in the preparatory sessions, which began in Havana yesterday, the delegates have already drafted the document that will serve as a basis for the foreign ministers' meeting.

It emphasizes, because the Malvinas situation is a current issue, a vigorous condemnation of Great Britain for its actions in the Malvinas Islands and gives full support to Argentina.

According to every forecast the final text, which will be approved on Friday, the last day of the ministers conference, will include the "nonaligned countries'" recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the islands. The movement will thus reaffirm positions established at previous meetings, held since 1975.

Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will attend the ministers meeting. Argentina has been a member of the group since 1973 and Costa Mendez is coming to Havana to explain Buenos Aires' stand in the South Atlantic conflict.

Cuba, the host country, wants the final text, which will serve as a basis for the declaration of the next nonaligned summit, scheduled for September in Baghdad, to explicitly condemn British "imperialism" and "colonialism" in the Malvinas Islands.

The draft includes a request that the United States immediately cease its military aid to the United Kingdom and, in reference to the EEC, demands that other developed countries end their support for the British Government and stop all hostility toward Argentina.

It is to be expected that this position will meet opposition from several African, Asian and Caribbean countries that are members of the British Commonwealth. This would cause an internal diplomatic squabble among the nonaligned countries.

It is not yet known what the text says about the Iran-Iraq war, which is now 21 months old.

According to the nonaligned countries, this conflict is very important, given that the next nonaligned summit is to be held in Baghdad, capital of Iraq, early in September. It was said that if grave security problems exist, another site could be chosen.

Should the summit not be held in Baghdad, the most likely host cities are Pyongyang (North Korea), Djakarta (Indonesia), or New Delhi (India), though Belgrade is also a possibility.

Closed-Door Sessions

FL011836 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] The nonaligned countries' Coordinating Bureau meeting continued its work this morning with closed-door sessions held by the economic and political commissions.

A few minutes ago, the commission on disarmament also began its activities. The topic of peace and detente is of great importance at present. For this reason, the work carried out by this commission, as well as the draft document resulting from the debates, are of great interest.

It has been learned that the Latin American countries are also meeting today. The Latin American group is reportedly discussing the problem of colonialism in this part of the world. Argentina's situation due to Great Britain's aggression in the Malvinas is one of the most important topics. The Latin American group will also analyze Puerto Rico's colonial situation.

Draft Political Declaration

PA011919 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] The sessions of ambassadors and officials of the Nonaligned Coordinating Board ministerial conference being held in Havana ended on Tuesday with debates in the political and economic commissions.

It has been learned that the draft of the political declaration includes a condemnation of the British aggression against the Argentine territory of the Malvinas and of U.S. support for London in that colonialist adventure.

The document also emphasizes the dangerous situation in Central America and the Caribbean as a result of Washington's plans to militarily intervene in El Salvador and to destabilize the governments of Nicaragua, Grenada and Cuba.

The declaration refers to the colonial case of Puerto Rico and calls for an end to the repression in Guatemala, Chile, Paraguay and other Latin American countries with fascist regimes.

It has also been learned that the political declaration reaffirms the Nonaligned Movement's support for the peoples of Africa's southern cone. It calls for the total independence of Namibia and condemns the South African regime and the Western powers that give it economic and military support.

In regard to the Middle East, the document reiterates the Palestinian inalienable right to independence and rejects all partial solutions to the conflict affecting that region. At the same time, it rejects the Zionist aggressiveness, promoted by Washington.

The Nonaligned Movement reaffirms the need to end the arms race, which can lead the world to a war of unpredictable consequences.

The draft of the economic declaration rejects the capitalist powers' protectionist and despoliating policy and their systematic opposition to the establishment of a new international economic order. It also condemns the transnational companies' destabilizing role and reaffirms the peoples' rights to freely control their own natural resources. The nonaligned countries' ministerial meeting is being held prior to the nonaligned summit meeting.

Ministerial Delegates Arrive

FL011920 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, has arrived in Havana to attend the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau meeting. Also arriving for the same purpose was 'Ali at-Turayki, Libya's permanent representative to the United Nations. Other foreign delegates arriving earlier include those of Iran, Pakistan, Mauritania, Singapore, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, People's Republic of the Congo, Yugoslavia and Jordan.

Nonaligned Media Pool

FL012027 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] The nonaligned countries' special pool of radio-broadcasting organizations, which will cover the ministerial meeting of the movement's Coordinating Bureau, held its inaugural session this morning.

Antonio Molto, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television and president of this work group, presided over this meeting. The pool's purpose is to send truthful information about the Coordinating Bureau's activities to the nonaligned countries and the rest of the world.

The special pool will prepare a daily bulletin which will be aired in the four official languages by Radio Havana Cuba and other interested radio stations.

A 15-minute newscast will be prepared daily for broadcast by one of the local television channels and by the television stations of those nonaligned countries which request it.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GRENADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

FL282212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] An inter-ministerial agreement between Cuba and Grenada effective until 31 December 1983 was signed today at the Foreign Ministry in Havana. The document was signed by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and Unison Whiteman. The agreement provides for cooperation between the two ministries, the training of functionaries, the exchange of information on international measures and the organization and operation of libraries and newspaper libraries.

Malmierca said that the Cuban Government had profitted from the useful exchanges with the brother country in doing a better job. The Grenadian minister replied that the signing of the document was a new step in strengthening relations between the two nations. He said that this was possible because the two countries belonged to the Caribbean and had similar histories of colonial and imperialist exploitation.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ARMED FORCES EVICT SQUATTERS FROM CAPITAL

FL221230 Bridgetown CANA in English 1132 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Santo Domingo, 22 May, (CANA-Reuter) -- Dominican Republic Armed Forces evicted hundreds of people who illegally took over land in the capital last night, President Antonio Guzman said.

Radio reports said that troops began their sweep by arresting dozens of squatters erecting cardboard shacks in the plush Los Rios District of the capital. Squatter invasions were also reported in six other Santo Domingo neighbourhoods. President Guzman blamed the illegal occupations on "minority groups" but he gave no details.

The squatter foray came only five days after Jorge Blanco of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) was elected the country's next president. He is to be sworn in on August 16.

Unidentified gunmen raked the PRD headquarters building in Santo Domingo with gunfire yesterday, but there were no casualties, police said. The PRD is also the party of President Guzman.

PANAMA

CIA 'HAND' IN ANTICOMMUNIST JOURNALISM ALLEGED

PA292113 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 28 May 82 p 6-A

[Luis Carlos Jimenez article: "Information and Misinformation"]

[Excerpt] In the international community, man is free to adopt the political ideas that best fit his own criteria and temperament. This is an elementary precept of formal democracy. However, degrading this ideal by making it conform to the wishes of the highest bidder to disseminate distorted information to the masses is a travesty of the role of impartial observers that newsmen must play at all times. A few years ago this very newspaper, MATUTINO, charged on its front page that there are many organizations in Panama which, in violation of the nation's sovereignty, were engaged in economic and political espionage and serving as fronts for the Central Intelligence Agency. I point this out because this shadowy organization's tactic of hiring collaborators among newsmen to spread confusion are well-known throughout the world. This comes to mind when one sees the proliferation of senseless, unintelligent and confusing programs that make one jump out of his seat as if it were not because of the coarse, theoretically feeble and deceitful language that they use to squash communism. One just can't think otherwise when one sees a sportscaster endorse clandestine pamphlets that show imperialism's hands behind dark maneuvers, and members of the weaker sex hide behind their position as newswomen to air incoherent and childish reports of bewildering inconsistency.

If the persons who are described in this column disagree with these views they can always participate in a televised dialogue as in Europe, to discuss major political problems. But they should, please, stop all that gibberish anticommunist reportage which seems to be financed by U.S. agencies. This business of hunting for "nangaras," as communists are disrespectfully called, pays off with flashy cars and fat bank accounts, but it also means sacrificing journliasm, which should be a moral bastion and a hollowed temple of information.